

Mrs Thatcher's call to EEC for £1,000m cut opposed at summit

Mrs Thatcher said at the Dublin summit yesterday that although she did not want to create a crisis in the EEC she wanted radical action to reduce Britain's contributions to the

budget. She asked for a total relief of about £1,000m next year but other Community leaders made it clear that this was far beyond what they were ready to accept.

Germans criticize oil price rise

From Michael Hornsby and Peter Norman
Dublin, Nov 29

The last thing Britain wants is to create a crisis in the European Community. Mrs Margaret Thatcher and the leaders of the other EEC states in Dublin today.

But speaking at the opening session of the two-day EEC summit, she emphasized that Britain was still seeking a broad balance between its contributions to and its receipts from the Community budget.

Mrs Thatcher said that Britain was in a unique position in having a below-average income per head in the EEC and having to make by far the largest net contribution. This situation, she added, was inequitable, and a solution had to be found.

Reporting on Mrs Thatcher's opening remarks to the summit, Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, said that she had emphasized that Britain was now a wholly dedicated member of the EEC. She had underlined that Britain did not want to make a crisis in Europe when there was so much trouble elsewhere in the world.

At the same time, she urged her fellow heads of government to be in no doubt about the political problem caused in Britain by a massive net contribution that under present circumstances is expected to grow to more than £1,000m next year.

Any other country in the same position would be putting its case with the same force and conviction as Britain and expecting the same response from its partners, she declared.

Mrs Thatcher said she wanted radical action both to reduce British contributions to the budget and to increase what Britain receives.

The Prime Minister told her colleagues that Britain's receipts per head from the budget were only half the Community average. If British receipts were raised to somewhere near the average, Britain's expected net contribution to the EEC budget next year of more than £1,000m would be cut by about £650m.

It, in addition, the EEC agreed to remove restraints, built into the existing mechanism, for reimbursing countries paying an unfairly large gross contribution when Britain could not further relief of about £500m in 1980. This would roughly meet Britain's objective of a "broad balance" on its budget accounts.

Other EEC leaders, however, made it clear that this is far beyond what they are ready to accept. They fear that such a radical change could set a dangerous precedent when the Community is about to expand to include three much poorer countries—Greece, Portugal and Spain.

The furthest the rest of the EEC appeared willing to go was to offer the £500m arising out of adjustment in the existing mechanism, coupled with some further increases in EEC spend-



Mrs Thatcher in Dublin with Signor Francesco Cossiga, the Italian Prime Minister (centre) and Mr Roy Jenkins, President of the EEC Commission.

ing in Britain on the coal industry, transport infrastructure, and farm modernization.

Mrs Thatcher said that while she favoured reducing agricultural expenditure, which now consumes 75 per cent of the budget, and shifting to other types of spending, this had to be done without increasing the overall size of the budget.

In any case, the Prime Minister said, any reform of the common agricultural policy, the common agricultural policy would only produce results

gradually and was not a solution to Britain's immediate problem.

Earlier, British officials reacted indignantly to German accusations that Britain was deliberately pushing up its North Sea oil-prices in line with those set by the more militant Opec producers such as Libya, Nigeria and Algeria.

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, believes that British price-fixing legitimizes oil-price de-

valuation.

It is claimed by the Germans that at the start of this year, when oil was scarce, Britain was among the first to raise its prices and that in January, North Sea oil was one dollar a barrel dearer than similar oil from Libya.

The Government is, in effect, imposing a cash limit system on local authorities. Ministers say that within the total allocated, the authorities would have freedom to allocate the resources as they chose.

The Bill would also allow government supervision of capital spending and abolish the Community Land Act.

Councils would be compelled to provide more information to ratepayers about the use made of resources.

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Community defaulting on agricultural payments

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

Ministers held urgent meetings yesterday after complaints from food traders that EEC authorities were defaulting on payments due under the common agricultural policy. It was the first visible sign in Britain of the approaching bankruptcy of the Community about which the European Commission has given warnings.

A brief statement by the Intervention Board for Agricultural Produce, the section of the civil service which administers EEC farm policy in Britain, said: "Problems are arising. Steps to secure adequate funds are being considered urgently."

It was the first official confirmation of a suspicion in the food industry that the Community was having difficulty in meeting its bills, and that the gigantic apparatus which

governs EEC farm production was approaching a breakdown.

The intervention board has paid more than £100m this year from the European agricultural guarantee and guidance fund, which absorbs more than two-thirds of the Community budget. It uses the money to buy beef, butter, grain, and skinned milk powder for storage, mackerel for animal feed, and fruit for dumping. It makes refunds to sugar traders and pays subsidies to encourage the use of skim milk in animal feeds.

Traders have complained to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food that payments due from the intervention board are being delayed without adequate explanation.

If money is not found soon, storage and other charges which should be paid from EEC funds will have to be met by British food traders.

Strict security precautions were in force today as Mrs Thatcher drove into Dublin Castle for the two-day meeting of a small group of demonstrators protesting against conditions in Long Kesh prison, near Belfast.

Opposition threatens to hold up business

By David Spender
Diplomatic Correspondent

Obstruction of all government business in the Commons was threatened yesterday by Mr Callaghan, Leader of the Opposition, after ministers had confirmed that the Cabinet had decided to begin the passage of the controversial Local Government Bill in the House of Lords.

While Labour MPs were protesting in the Commons, Mr Callaghan, after the first reading of the Bill in the House of Lords, so it achieved a full

Patriotic Front close to accepting ceasefire proposals

By David Spender
Diplomatic Correspondent

The Rhodesia constitutional conference stands on the brink of a spectacular success today, with a good expectation that the Patriotic Front delegation is now close to accepting a ceasefire.

Lord Carrington, the conference chairman, is returning post-haste from the European summit in Dublin this afternoon, in order to hear Mr Nkomo's and Mr Mugabe's response to the newly revised British ceasefire plan. It was clear when they met for a short private talk at the Foreign Office yesterday, before Lord Carrington's departure, that the general result was encouraging about the British proposals.

Patriots came over to the Commons to witness the confrontation later between Mr Callaghan and Mr Norman St John-Stevens, Leader of the House and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

Mr St John-Stevens confirmed that the Cabinet had discussed the parliamentary convention which decides the money Bills. The Bill on the allocation of funds from the Exchequer—sugar come first—had the House of Commons, and had decided that the Bill did not come within that category.

That is manifestly open to serious challenge, and Mr Callaghan and his advisers will study the terms of the Bill closely when it is published on Tuesday.

It will obviously affect the amount provided from central government funds by way of rate support grant, this year amounting to 61 per cent of food imports in the ordinary course, which comes to £996m. The whole basis of reckoning the grants is to be changed.

At present, through a complicated formula, generally speaking, the local authorities which spend the most attract the highest amount of central government grant irrespective of need. A new block grant system is to be introduced which will concentrate on the "need" element face to face.

Finally, if all goes well, there is likely to be a formal ceremony of some kind.

With the Salisbury delegation accepting the British plan earlier this week, barring a last-minute upset, always possible in a negotiation as difficult and emotional as this one has been, it looks as if the ceasefire will be accepted by both sides.

If so, the conference will move immediately into two or three days' intensive work on the implementation of the new system, with the military commanders of each side—General Walls for the Rhodesian régime and General Tongogara for the Patriotic Front—hammering out the details face to face.

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With the Salisbury delegation accepting the British plan, there is obviously little room for further negotiations without risking what has been achieved already.

The main effect of the detailed discussions with the Patriotic Front this week has been to spell out what reciprocal disengagement means in the ceasefire, so that the Patriotic Front could feel confident that their own forces would not be at a disadvantage but have the same standing as those of the régime.

can take effect as quickly as possible. The name of the British Governor is likely to be announced shortly.

Arrangements are well in hand for British "field-supervisors" to go to Rhodesia early next week to prepare the ground for the elections. A small advance party of military advisers is already there, making early provision for ceasefire arrangements.

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The United States Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) did not accept the legality of his enterprise and suspended him. Stones threatened them with court action. The AAU has agreed to reinstate him on the understanding, principally, that the money would be passed to them.

He has also undertaken to withdraw his actions to make a public statement that he would work with the AAU and to make a public apology to the AAU, and the AAU accepted the apology.

The purpose of yesterday's meeting was for Lord Carrington to explain in a more informal atmosphere than that of the full conference at Lancaster House, that the British proposals had been expanded and clarified just about as far as it was possible to go to take account of their concerns.

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The price of becoming an amateur again

By a Staff Reporter

Dwight Stones, an American athlete, has recovered his amateur status. Behind that bare statement lies the strange story of an athletics club bearing the exotic title of Desert Oasis Track Club and boasting one member: Dwight Stones.

A high jumper of vaulting ambition in all senses, Stones thought he had discovered a means of capitalizing on his prowess without losing the chance to compete in top-class athletics, including the Olympic Games.

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Local Labour Party cuts national ties over left-right power clash

From Our Correspondent Bodmin

Labour party supporters in a constituency in Cornwall which was once socialist but which is held by a Conservative MP, yesterday announced they were no longer affiliating to the national party.

The decision has caused concern at the party's national headquarters where it is feared the action could prompt similar decisions elsewhere.

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Mr Whitelaw announces new immigration rules

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

A change in the proposed new immigration rules affecting British women born overseas will be announced by Mr Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, in a Commons debate next Tuesday.

It changes the contentious proposal to restrict the present rights of British women to have their foreign husbands join them and reside in Britain.

Under the new rules originally proposed by Mr Whitelaw, British girls born overseas of British parents will have their cases subject to the Home Secretary's discretion, but outside the formal rules to be approved by Parliament.

Now Mr Whitelaw will propose that the rules will specifically allow British women born overseas of British parents to have their cases subject to the Home Secretary's discretion, but outside the formal rules to be approved by Parliament.

Labour MPs are expected to charge that the change would discriminate further against British, Asian and other coloured Britons.

Bishops accuse, page 7

Sport, page 18, 19

Football: Brady to leave Arsenal for Europe at end of season

Rugby League: John Player Cup final postponed because of television dispute

Tennis: Rex Klemmer, main Sylvia Haakka, a star of the future

Business, pages 20-25

Stock markets: Gilt edged guaranteed at the close of business yesterday

continued. The FT index rose 5.0 to 422.9

Arts, page 13

David Robinson finds a new British director, ending the search for

HOME NEWS

TUC leaders gloomy after failing to persuade Mr Prior to drop the industrial reforms Bill

By Donald Macintyre

Labour Reporter

TUC leaders failed last night in a final attempt to persuade the Government to drop its legislative proposals for reforms in industrial relations.

Despite being told by Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, that he was considering modifications of detail in the Bill expected next week, the union leaders lost no time in expressing their gloom at what Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, called, after the meeting, "These disgraceful proposals".

Mr Prior declined after the two and a half hour meeting, described by Mr Murray as tense, to elaborate on what the modifications might be. He said: "It has been more a dialogue of the deaf on one side than the other."

The TUC's employment policy and organization committee nonetheless left the meeting in no doubt that any changes would not be enough to dissuade them from holding a full conference of union general secretaries and presidents on January 22 to discuss the Bill, with the possibility of a recall of Congress after that.

Mr Murray, who said he was

depressed by the meeting, added: "I am very apprehensive about what is likely to be in the Bill." The conference on January 22 of chief officers outlined in the Leggatt report on the activities of sections of the Society of Lithographic Artists, Designers and Engravers.

Government was not going to back away from its promise of legislation, aimed at coercive union recruitment practices and outlined in the Leggatt report on the activities of sections of the Society of Lithographic Artists, Designers and Engravers.

Mr Prior told reporters after the meeting that he had told Mr Harry Urwin, the chairman of the committee, and deputy general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, that all unionists were to be the Archangel Gabriel would have been opposed by the TUC in its present mood.

He added: "I would say that our proposals have been opposed in some quarters as much for their moderation as they have in others for their facility. If we could get Mr Urwin and a leader writer of *The Daily Telegraph* in the same room they might see we were hitting it about right."

The talks had ostensibly been seen by the Employment Department as covering the most recently published consultative paper of the series on industrial relations legislation, that covering proposed changes in the Employment Protection Act.

BL strike stewards back at work

By Clifford Webb

Midlands Industrial Correspondent

Members of the joint shop stewards committee at British Leyland's Longbridge plant returned to work yesterday and reluctantly acknowledged the collapse of the strike they called days ago to secure the reinstatement of their dismissed comrade, Mr Derek Robinson.

They had sought to make a point by staying out for 24 hours longer than the men they called out.

The shop stewards have said that there are no in mood to make concessions when crucial pay talks resume. Management has suggested a meeting of the BL joint negotiating council next week but so far the union side led by Mr Granville Hawley, national secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, has not replied.

One main stumbling block to a resumption is Mr Robinson's position on the JNC. Last night a close colleague of his said: "Derek sits on the JNC as a nominee of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers. He may have been sacked by Eddies but he has not been sacked by Duffy and still holds his union offices. He expects to attend any meetings of the JNC."

It is understood that management takes the view that any union offices Mr Robinson held arose directly from his employment at Longbridge. He was elected a shop steward by fellow workers. Now that he is no longer employed by BL he cannot claim to represent the men who elected him.

Talbot vote: A mass meeting of workers at the Talbot car plant at Linwood, Strathclyde voted against strike action yesterday (the Press Association reports).

Government to press for early debate

By Fred Emery

Political Editor

The Government's long-awaited Trades Union Reform Bill is now expected to be presented to Parliament next Friday. A few adjustments to the draft are being made after union representations at the meeting yesterday between the TUC committee and Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment.

These adjustments might delay presentation of the Bill, although the Government is most unwilling to accept further delay since to do so would prevent a second reading and Commons debate of the Bill before Christmas.

The Government have decided not to wait on the House of Lords opinion in appeal of the case of Express Newspapers versus McShane and others (of the National Union of Journalists). Any consequence of the Lords opinion will now be incorporated in the Bill at a later stage.

Charing Cross doctors congratulated

Sir Douglas Black, president of the Royal College of Physicians, has sent a letter of congratulation to doctors at Charing Cross Hospital, west London, who this week took over picket lines and allowed essential oil supplies into the strikebound hospital.

His letter Sir Douglas said it was tragic when a vulnerable section of the community, such as hospital patients, was disadvantaged by strikes, and that every credit should go to the doctors and nurses of Charing Cross.

Open verdict recorded on atom plant cancer victim

From Our Correspondent

Swindon

An atom plant worker, Mr Ken Cummins, was told in a letter last year that he had a level of plutonium contamination three and four times the maximum permissible lung burden, an inquest jury heard yesterday.

A Ministry of Defence safety officer said at the inquest, however, that the body monitor measurements at Harwell were shown to be "spurious" and a nonsense.

The inquest at Swindon, Wiltshire, heard that Mr Cummins of Atherton Crescent, Hungerford, Berkshire, worked for 11 years until 1978 in the waste disposal unit of the Aldermaston Atomic Weapons Research Establishment. He died, aged 47, in a Swindon hospital on August 10 this year from what was described as a very rare cancer in the rectum.

Dr Geoffrey Schofield, chief medical officer for British Nuclear Fuels, who examined specimens to determine the extent

of radioactive materials, said Mr Cummins' body contained 13 per cent of the maximum recommended values laid down by the International Commission of Radiological Protection. He agreed that was well below the maximum allowed.

But Professor Patricia Lindop, Professor of Radiation Biology at London University, said the cancer in the bowel was extremely rare, and afflicted only five people in 100 million of that age group.

"We cannot possibly say this was not caused by radiation."

Mr Edgar Jones, Ministry of Defence superintendent of personnel safety, agreed that Mr Cummins had a level of plutonium contamination three and four times the maximum permissible lung burden.

The closure was the result of bank clerks' dissatisfaction over what they saw as insufficient financial compensation for the extra work involved since Ireland joined the European Monetary System, and the link with sterling which was broken nearly a year ago.

As part of a campaign for a

permanent pay rise, the clerks refused to handle any sterling transaction. During rumours of imminent closure, bank customers withdrew, it is estimated, £100m on Thursday last week.

Unable to risk having to meet such a continuing demand for cash, management closed their doors the next day, and kept them closed until an undertaking was given by the clerks that they would handle sterling.

A lump-sum payment of 12 per cent of salary was offered to the clerks. The banks reopened immediately the result

of the national ballot became known yesterday.

The long-term effects of the unusual stoppage, a lock-in, will not be known for several weeks. Management will feel, however, that this will have less business than failing credibility and because of the now common split accounts which business must have found essential if they are to be guaranteed a permanent banking service.

In 1976 the Republic had a bank strike, lasting two months and in 1970 there was a closure for six months. On each occasion the banks lost more customers.

Unpopularity of quangos alarms the white-collar unions

By Annabel Ferriman

The Government was burning the seed corn of the future by cutting back the budgets of the industrial training boards. Mr Clive Jenkins, general secretary of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs told a trade union conference yesterday.

In order to save £3m, the Government was cutting the boards' budgets by 20 per cent and that would cause an acute shortage of skilled technicians, he said. Imperial Chemical Industries had already had to defer its petro-chemical plant at Teeside because of the national shortage of instrument technicians.

Mr Jenkins was addressing a conference of trade unionists in London, called to defend quangos, or quasi-autonomous non-governmental organizations, from ill-informed public attack.

He said the Government was attacking quangos because it favoured a proprietorial rather

than a participatory society.

"There is a sharp hatred and envy of trade unions in particular and citizens in general becoming involved."

Many of the attacks had been inaccurate, Mr Philip Holland, Conservative MP for Carlton, had included in his list of 3,068 quangos such institutions as Harrow School, Kew Gardens and the Albert Hall, simply because ministers made appointments to their governing bodies.

It had also been said that they were expensive to run, but for every paid appointee, there were five unpaid. Some bodies, such as the Regional Boundary Commissions, the Commission for Racial Equality and the Supplementary Benefits Commission had to be independent from the Government. The benefits commission's independent role was probably the reason for its closure.

He was particularly worried

about cuts to the industrial training board, "Vital Skills Group", which had representatives from both the CBI and the TUC on it, had found in a sample of 1,000 companies that 46 per cent experienced recruitment problems or shortages in trained and skilled staff.

One of the effects of the cuts was that the chemical industry training board could not expand its training programmes for instrument technicians.

Mr Alfred Sherman, economist and writer, spoke against the quango, whose growth he saw as an offshoot of the growth of the state. He said quangos cost the Government about £20m a year in salaries and a further £10m in appointments to their governing bodies.

These expenses were not subjected to the scrutiny and appurportum reserved for expenses accruing to the wealth creating business and professional sector. "Quango expenses are the jam on the bread," he said.

Delegates to the conference, which was made up of 60

representatives from the four civil service unions and ASTMS, denied hotly the implication from Mr Sherman that in some way they had

their hands in the till.

Nearly two million pensioners will lose £40 as result of changes

Changes for long-term jobless are condemned

By Pat Healy

Social Services Correspondent

Nearly two million pensioners will lose about £40 each in 1980-81 as a result of changes proposed in the social security Bill published yesterday. But their loss will be disguised because it will be implemented at the same time as the next general increase in pensions and other benefits in November, 1980.

The loss will result from the Government's decision to bring the lower rates of national insurance benefits into line with supplementary benefits next November. That change will produce half the £60m savings over the social security system, which the Bill said would be offset by more spending in other areas.

More money will go under the Bill to some children in families drawing supplementary benefit by reducing the present five age-related bands of children's rates to three, and by giving the higher long-term rates of supplementary benefit to claimants under pension age over one year, instead of two.

The latter reform will not be extended to the long-term unemployed, a decision described yesterday by the Supplementary Benefits Commission as a serious and disappointing omission.

Mr Patrick Jenkins, Secretary of State for Social Services, justified that decision yesterday on the grounds of cost and the need to maintain incentives to work. He said it would cost £5m a year to give the long-term unemployed the higher rate of benefit on the same terms as other claimants.



Mr Jenkins: Justifies decision on grounds of cost.

The main purposes of the Bill are to change the method for increasing pensions and other long-term benefits by breaking the link with movements in the economy, begin the process of simplifying the supplementary benefits scheme, and to give the Government powers to implement the terms of an EEC directive designed to give men and women equal treatment in social security systems by 1984.

The breaking of the earnings link is likely to be the most controversial part of the Bill, but Mr Jenkins emphasized yesterday that the Government was giving a categorical under-

taking that pensioners would continue to share in rising living standards of the population as a whole.

The reforms of the supplementary benefits scheme followed Social Assistance, the departmental review of the scheme, Mr Jenkins said. The legal basis for the scheme would be changed, with entitlement resting on public regulations, rather than on discretion which would mean that savings of £15m would be made by introducing a standard contribution towards house rates for non-dependants of £120m, by making people with savings of £2,000 or more ineligible, and £3m by delaying entitlement of school leavers until the end of the holiday after they leave school.

The new Social Security Advisory Committee, which would replace both the Commission and the National Insurance Advisory Committee, would have wide discretion on how the Bill would be implemented, Mr Jenkins said. It would be up to the committee to decide whether it would produce annual reports and whether it would offer advice to ministers. There was nothing in the Bill to prevent it raising policy issues as the Commission had done.

Mr Jenkins refused to be drawn on when he would approach the chairman of the new committee, but confirmed that the results of the review of the scheme would be that the notorious A code governing supplementary benefits would disappear.

"We attach very considerable importance to the fact that the system will no longer be shrouded in secrecy," he said. "People will be able to see what their entitlement is and will be able to judge whether they are getting it."

Mr Jenkins was unable to say how much discretion would be

left in the supplementary benefit scheme until the new regulations were tabled. He hoped they would be ready by the time the Bill went into committee.

Mr Jenkins was also unable to estimate how many people would be made worse off as a result of the Bill's proposals or how many would become ineligible for supplementary benefits. The Bill said that savings of £15m would be made by introducing a standard contribution towards house rates for non-dependants of £120m, by making people with savings of £2,000 or more ineligible, and £3m by delaying entitlement of school leavers until the end of the holiday after they leave school.

The Supplementary Benefits Commission yesterday welcomed the Government's decision to act swiftly in proposing changes to the supplementary benefits that more could be done if more money was provided. It said there would be advantages in the new Social Security Advisory Committee which would be able to consider all the main social security benefits, unlike the two bodies it was replacing.

Miss Ruth Lister, director of the Child Poverty Action Group, said last night it was welcome that there would be less secrecy, and that there would be clearer rights to benefits. But until the new regulations were known it would be difficult to see whether or not it would be an expense of making some families worse off.

Leading article, page 15

Professor Blunt regarded as risk in 1939

By Stewart Tendler

Professor Blunt, the fourth man in the Philby affair, was removed from a military intelligence course in 1939 because he was a security risk. The decision was taken, according to one of his lecturers, because of his Communist sympathies at Cambridge.

The course contained almost no sensitive material but a year later Professor Blunt was recruited to MI5 where he did handle sensitive material, some of which was passed to the Russians.

On Monday, The Times published a photograph of Professor Blunt as Second Lieutenant A. F. Blunt. The photograph was taken at the beginning of the course and Professor Blunt left a few days later.

The course was held at Moulsey Manor, Camberley, Surrey, and distinguished the second "war intelligence course". The five-week course was in October and November and covered general theory.

Most of the officers, including Prof. Blunt, were drawn from the Army's recently formed officer emergency reserve. They were suggested for the course by a major who had good connections in London's clubland and selected by Field Marshal Gerald Templer, who was about to become a colonel at the War Office.

According to Brigadier John Shearer, commandant at Moulsey, there was "little really sensitive material in the course" which gave an introduction to the British Army and dealt with specialized subjects like the German army structure. Brig. Shearer said: "We told them what MI5 stood for and that was all."

Two days after the course began Prof. Blunt was with drawn by Brigadier Thomas Robins, one of the instructors. He said: "I came down to break fast and was told Blunt has been withdrawn. When I asked why I was told because he was a Communist at Cambridge."

Brigadier Robins believe the decision was taken by brigadier on the staff of military intelligence at the War Office who had overall responsibility for the course. It was the only case of its kind Brigadier Robins can remember in the three years he taught at Moulsey.

Since Professor Blunt was commissioned officer he had to be found for him and it is thought that the War Office decided to give him a post as field security officer because of his knowledge of France and Germany.

Back in England in 1940, the Army seems to have had second thoughts about his decision and in doing so made easier for him to join MI5. He began work in the office of brigadier at the War Office

Christmas recess

Parliament will adjourn for the Christmas recess from December 21 until January 1.

Correction

Colonel James Ellis Evans, who is now Major General Sir James Evans, has been appointed to the command of the Royal Welsh Regiment. He was not mentioned in the official announcement of his appointment, but he is a member.

Most wanted man in Ulster jailed

By Our Social Services Correspondent

The Government will continue to isolate and increasing dependence if it carries out its intention to block a private member's Bill.

Mr George Wilson, director of the Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation (RADAR), made that accusation yesterday when he urged disabled people to carry their complaints about lack of services to their social services departments.

The Bill, to be introduced by Mr Stanley Orme, Minister of Social Security in the last Labour Government, would restore to disabled people the right to see their local authorities for not providing them with services they need.

The right was intended to be enshrined in the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act, 1970, but has been rejected in a county court decision. The Government is expected to object to the Bill.

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Renault 20TS	£6167
Volvo 244DL	£5995

IT SHATTERS EVERYONE'S HIGH EXPECTATIONS OF VOLVO.

We're very pleased to be bottom of this particular list. And we didn't have to drop any standards to get there.

Indeed, we build our cars so carefully that they're still on the road long after other makes are on the scrap heap.

(Statistics collected by the Swedish government show that Volvos in Sweden keep going for an average of 17.5 years.)

An example of the care we take is the piping in our braking system.

Most carmakers are happy with copper. But we prefer an unusual copper/nickel alloy.

It's far from cheap, but nothing resists corrosion so well. We have no choice but to use it.

(The only other manufacturer to be so particular is Porsche. They use the alloy on their 928 which costs nearly £22,000.)

We are equally uncompromising in our search for new ideas.

We pioneered the laminated windscreen.

We were the first to fit three-point safety belts as standard.

We developed the concept of the safety cage. (Our ideas have so impressed America's National Highway Traffic Administration that they have chosen the Volvo 244 as the basic model for future safety needs.)

All of these things, we realise, only encourage the belief that Volvos are very expensive.

Unfortunately, it's the price we have to pay.



VOLVO. A CAR WITH STANDARDS.

HOME NEWS

Bakers blame dearer bread on cost of fuel and wrappingBy Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

The prices of bread and eggs will rise next week.

A large, white, sliced loaf will increase by 2½p to 34p and a small loaf by 1½p. Some sizes of eggs will increase for the second time this month by as much as 10p a dozen.

Bakers said yesterday that the rise on bread, the first for six months, was necessary to cover extra costs. Prices of fuel for machinery and delivery vans have increased sharply since May and the cost of oil-based wrappings has gone up.

Mr Peter Davies, chairman of Allied Bakeries, which sells Sunblest and Vith bread, said that packaging costs were "going up at a frightening rate". The latest wage award in the bread industry will take place next week when basic rates go up by about 15 per cent. The price of flour is also due to rise early next month.

A spokesman for RHM, the company which makes McVitie's Pridemill, said the price rise on a large loaf would be 3p in Scotland and Northern Ireland because distribution costs were higher there.

Egg sizes three and four will go up by 3p a dozen, and size five by 5p a dozen. Egg production has fallen for much of this year because of a reduction in placings of young

chicks in the second half of 1978.

Fatty meat: Modern farming methods produce meat with too much fat. Dr Michael Crawford, a researcher at the Nuffield Institute of Comparative Medicine, said yesterday. Moreover it was saturated fat of the type considered by many scientists to be linked to the high level of coronary heart disease in industrialized countries like Britain.

"It does not make any sense to feed animals with expensive imported grain to make them fat," he said at a conference organized in London by the Coronary Prevention Group. Lambs were brought down from the hills of Wales and Scotland every year to be fed in stalls for three months. The muscle, or lean meat, acquired on the hills was replaced by fat.

"You do not need that amount of fat to provide a taste," Dr Crawford said.

Dr K. B. Ball, vice-chairman of the Coronary Prevention Group, said that it had decided to concentrate on changing the diet because the recommendations about reducing fat intake from committees of scientists in the mid-1970s had not been followed up by Government action. "We are up against enormous vested interests in this," Dr Ball said. "Millions of pounds have been spent on enormous campaigns trying to persuade the country to eat more saturated fat."

New wheat varieties may lead to cut in imports

By Our Agriculture Correspondent

British scientists have developed new varieties of wheat designed to enable millers to use less imported grain in bread flour. Loaves and rolls made from the new varieties, called Bunting and Avalon, were displayed at a press conference in London.

The new wheats were bred by Mr John Bingham, leader of wheat projects at the Government's Plant Breeding Institute near Cambridge and one of the country's leading cereal plant-breeders.

He said that British farmers would have to improve their marketing to millers if the 30 per cent share of French wheat in British bread was to be reduced. They had a good opportunity to do so because wheat from traditional suppliers in Canada now attracted an EEC levy of a third of its price before it could be sold here.

British farmers grow far more wheat for animal feed than

grain of bread-making quality because of the higher yields of the former. Mr Bingham said that his new varieties yielded at least as much as Mario Hunterman, one of the most prolific feed varieties of the past decade.

Mr F. T. Rees, EEC commissioner with the Rank Hovis milling company, said that Britain was close to having its first grain surplus. At a conference about grain at Abingdon, near Cambridge, he said: "We are teetering on the brink of complete self-sufficiency in those grains which can grow in this country, and it just requires a little push to put us into a surplus."

He gave farmers a warning not to rely on EEC institutions to buy surpluses, as they do now. "The Community is running short of cash," he said.

To rely on official channels for intervention over the next decade is blindly optimistic."

The EEC now has a grain "mountain" of more than 2 million tonnes.

Law amended to help divert grant schools

By Diana Geddes

A change in the law to enable the remaining direct-grant grammar schools to apply for the proposed assisted places scheme and opt for independence without loss of Government grant was announced yesterday by Mr Mark Carlisle, QC, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

Under regulations introduced by the Labour Government in 1975, direct-grant schools would continue to receive grants from the Government for pupils admitted after 1976 only if they could satisfy the Secretary of State that they intended to become a comprehensive school maintained by a local education authority.

Of the 174 direct-grant schools at that time, 122 opted for independence, seven closed, and 45, nearly all Roman Catholic, agreed to go comprehensive. Of those, 35 are fully maintained comprehensive schools, but 10 schools have yet to take the final steps. It is these schools which will benefit.

The amending regulations will enable schools to continue to receive Government grants in respect of pupils admitted next September.

Polytechnics apply for royal charters

By Peter David

The directors of Britain's 31 polytechnics have drawn up proposals to secure royal charters for their colleges to win an equivalent status to universities.

Details of the main features of a charter have been circulated privately in recent months to members of the Committee of Directors of polytechnics freedom to award their own degrees and loosen their financial dependence.

Mr David Bethel, chairman of the Committee of Directors of Polytechnics, who wrote the Bill, said: "The International Stoke Mandeville Games this summer have been awarded the Bill McGovern Trophy which is presented annually by the Sports Writers' Association to the Disabled Sports Personality of the Year."

Mrs Margaret Price of Ashwater, Devon, who won eight gold medals and set three world records in the International Stoke Mandeville Games this summer has been awarded the Bill McGovern Trophy which is presented annually by the Sports Writers' Association to the Disabled Sports Personality of the Year.

The three men were each jailed for 12 years by Judge McCleery. The two prisoners were Derek Bradbury, aged 30, and William Harnsworth, aged 26, of the Royal Technical College, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

The three men hit two middle-aged women guests of the priest at St Theresa's Priory, Beaumont Road, Totton, Hampshire.

The priest, Rev Alan Webster, did not occupy it when he took up his

apartment because the building was too big and was also thought to be unsafe.

He said yesterday: "It re-

quires a new steel frame which

would cost £1m to fit. The Dean

and Chapter of the Cathedral

cannot find this kind of money

to save the building which we

would like to use for educational purposes."

The squatters, mostly students

at either the City University or

the City of London Polytechnic,

moved into the Deanery last

Sunday after it had been opened

for them by the Advisory Service for Squatters.

The service acts as a kind of

agent for squatters, re-

searching what properties are

lying empty, what kind of state

they are in and then advising on

the legal consequences of

occupying them.

The students occupying the

Old Deanery have failed to find

any accommodation near their

place of study. Their squat is

highly visible.

They have had the electricity

meter read and have promised

to pay for all water used. They

are taking care not to damage

the interior.

The only signs of their occu-

pation are sleeping bags neatly

spread on the bare floors of

what were once the Dean's library

and drawing room. The

front gates to the Deanery are

locked. Visitors are asked to

join two wires together to ring

a makeshift bell. When I visited

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pation are sleeping bags neatly</div

Sorry, Marge.

Butter is made today by much the same natural method as it was made thousands of years ago. Simply by taking pure dairy cream and churning it until it turns into butter.

This natural method means that there are many kinds of butter from different parts of the world for you to choose from.

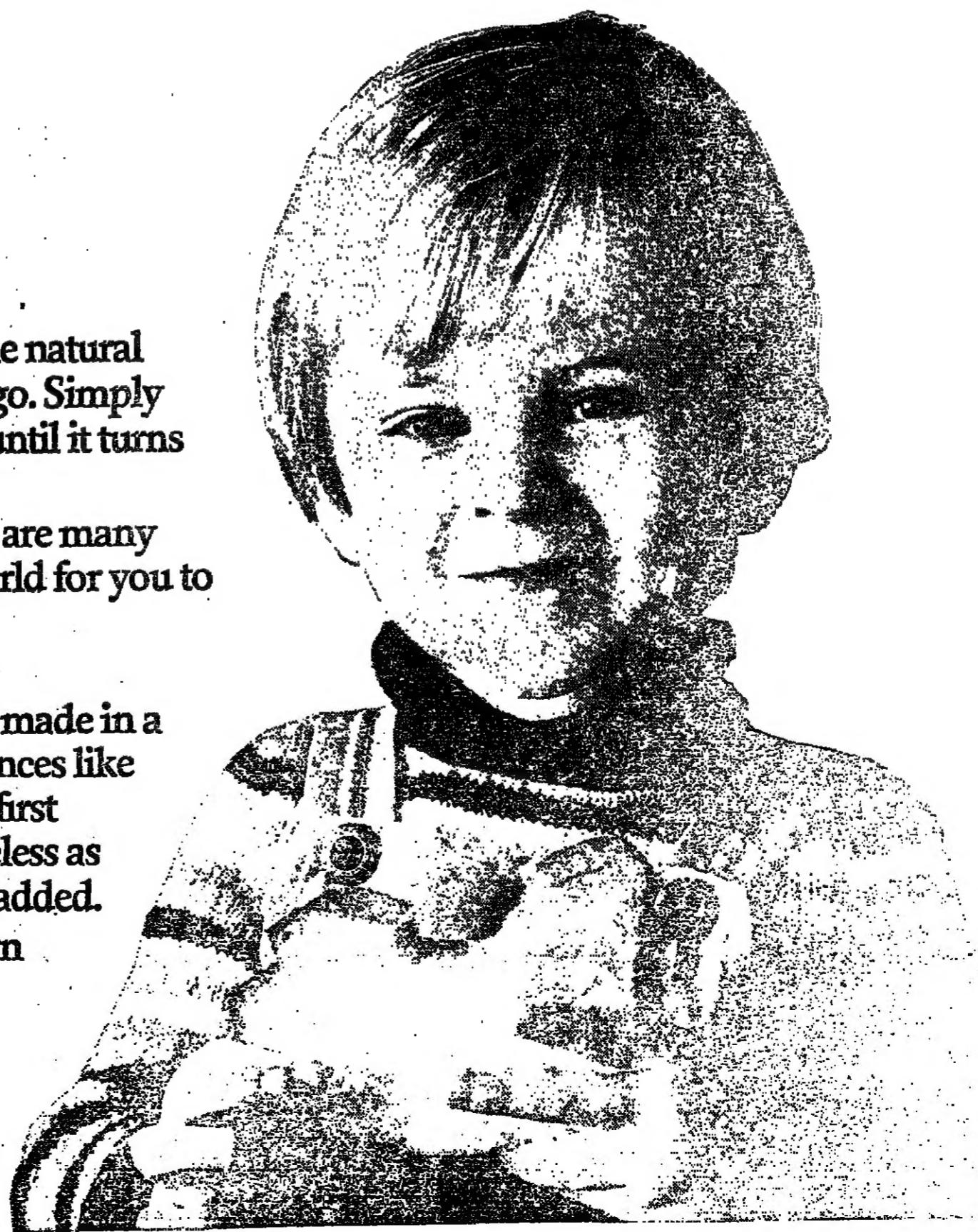
But butter always tastes like butter.

Margarine tastes different because it is made in a different way. Basically it's made from substances like vegetable oils, fish oils and tallow. These are first refined and deodorised until they are as tasteless as possible. Then flavourings, vitamins etc. are added.

The result tastes as good as any modern synthetic product can.

But it's not butter. And it doesn't taste like butter. Does it?

Sorry Marge.



Only butter tastes like butter

PARLIAMENT, November 29, 1979

Britain pays £1,522m as share of cost of CAP

House of Commons

Britain's contribution to the common agricultural policy, which will be £1,522m next year, was attacked by both Labour and Conservative MPs. But Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said Mrs Thatcher had been "much more" than that in this matter than Mr. Heath.

Mr. Walker told Mr. Jack Straw (Labour, Lab)—The latest Government budget is for 1980. The estimated cost of the Common Agricultural Policy in that year is about £1,485m, in which the United Kingdom would contribute about £1,332m. These estimates relate to "Community arrangements" as they stand at present and will be affected by future decisions on agricultural prices and other matters.

Mr. Straw—In view of the astronomical size of the budget and our contribution why, at the weekend, did the Government vote to cut £150m from subsidies to milk producers?

Mr. Walker (Worcester, C)—Because the Government considered the correct method of dealing with the CAP in the European Ministers where, last year, we made clear our position on milk prices and contributions to milk.

Mr. Michael Latham (Merton, C)—Those figures are deplorable and unacceptable to the British. We hope Mrs. Thatcher's just request will be met by the Council of Ministers.

Mr. Walker pointed out later that the last Labour government found that an alteration in the CAP was not a speedy procedure.

Mrs. Joan Maynard (Sheffield, Brightside, Lab)—The only way the Prime Minister in Dublin will get any action on this future arrangement is if the CAP will be to say we will pay no more money to the EEC funds until we achieve that.

Mr. Walker—This Prime Minister has been much more robust on this than the previous one. I do not think the government did virtually nothing when the CAP rose from £1,600m to £2,000m.

Mr. Roy Mason, chief Opposition spokesman on agriculture (Barnsley, Lab)—One recognises that the Prime Minister is making strenuous efforts to re-think the CAP. But what proposals do you have to renegotiate the CAP so we get a better deal?

Mr. Walker—Our predecessors agreed to price increases in every price fixing on those items in surplus. We froze prices.

EEC sugar plans not acceptable to UK

The Government's determination to stand up for the interests of British sugar-growers in the EEC was expressed at question time by Mr. Alick Buchanan-Smith, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Mr. Eric Cockerham (Ludlow, C)—Is the Minister of Agriculture satisfied with the proposals—a and a quota for sugar beet for 1980-81 for the United Kingdom?

Mr. Buchanan-Smith (North Angus and Mearns, C)—No. Formal proposals have yet been tabled by the EEC Commission. However, aspects of what these proposals might indicate discrimination against the United Kingdom and in such a form they would be unacceptable.

Mr. Cockerham—Since the United Kingdom does not contribute to the surplus and did not use its full quota, we should not be penalised because of the surpluses produced by France and West Germany.

Mr. Buchanan-Smith—That is precisely the point which concerns us. The years of production on which they might base our quota are not clear, but because of the weather production in Britain was much lower.

Mr. Clement Freud (Isel of Ely, C)—The quota for Britain could kill Farmers will be reluctant to take up their full allocation unless they get a chance to get a quota.

Mr. Buchanan-Smith—Mr. Freud is right. Getting a fair share of the quota is vital to our industry.

Mr. Ralph Howell (North Norfolk, C)—This industry is important to us. That is why we have a strong argument if there is an unfair cutback in the quota in this country.

Mr. Buchanan-Smith—There is some criticism that that industry is less efficient than that in Europe. That is why we take a look at the fact that when you retain input and output, we have an efficient industry.

Mr. Roy Mason, chief Opposition spokesman on agriculture. Fisheries and Food (Barnsley, Lab)—With regard to the advice the minister is receiving about world trends of sugar surplus or deficit. As the British Sugar Corporation suggests that there may be a surplus of 1.5m tonnes, I am sure that the advice he is receiving is that the advice he is receiving is that we are in a deficit.

Mr. Buchanan-Smith—We are awaiting advice from a number of quarters. As Mr. Mason thought a lot of advice was conflicting, we shall come to a decision on the best consideration of that advice.

Conference of main political parties in N Ireland still best way to proceed

It was right to propose arrangements for renewed political life in Ulster and before doing so to seek the highest level of agreement among the political parties who were supporting these arrangements as to what they should be. Mr. Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland (Spenthorne, C), said in opening a debate on the working paper for a conference on the government of Northern Ireland.

He said that since the suspension of the Stormont Parliament in 1972, Northern Ireland had been governed, except for a short period in 1974, by direct rule from Westminster. Successive governments and Secretaries of State and the civil servants in the departments responsible had done their best to give Northern Ireland an efficient civil service, to maintain and to make it sensitive to the special needs of the province. He believed that that had been done with some success and that direct rule had a fair degree of acceptability.

Proposals in the working paper did not set out a programme for the future government of Northern Ireland, but was rather a working kit to help discussion about what form of devolved government would suit Northern Ireland in present circumstances, so as to assist the British Government in taking the necessary legislative steps.

He would not comment on the illustrative models at the end of the paper, because he did not wish to imply that the Government had any secret preference among them. It did not have the responsibility of deciding what should be done. There is a widespread desire in Northern Ireland to move away from direct rule and to have a devolved government which is accountable to the people of Northern Ireland.

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He would not comment on the

looked forward to the joint development of a range of activities, funded in part by EEC funds.

Joint activity on matters of common interest rather than emphasis on political and constitutional problems was the most practical evidence of the Irish dimension. The Government sought an acceptable form of devolved government in which the minority community could have confidence as the first step.

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but will take place and prove fruitful. The object is not necessarily to reach complete agreement on a full-blown constitution. It is to find the highest level of agreement for a transfer of powers of government from Northern Ireland so that proposals based on that level of devolution can be put by the Government here to Parliament.

It is Parliament who in the end will have the responsibility of deciding what should be done. There is a widespread desire in Northern Ireland to move away from direct rule and to have a devolved government of Northern Ireland in the shape of a devolved administration acceptable to both communities.

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HOME NEWS

Whitehall's waste elimination unit asks civil servants to gauge the true necessity of their tasks

Peter Hennessy
Sir Derek Rayner, joint director of Marks & Spencer's and the Prime Minister's adviser on the simplification of government, has circulated a document to ministers and senior civil servants containing his "scrutiny" plan.

The Prime Minister's backing for the Rayner plan was conveyed in a letter dated October 17 from Mr Clive Whitemore, her Principal Private Secretary, to equivalents in the private offices of Cabinet ministers. Sir Derek's detailed "note of guidance" was circulated on November 2.

Sir Derek's plan contains a statement of his philosophical approach:

"The reasoning behind the scrutiny programme is that ministers and their officials are better equipped to assess the need to examine the use of the resources for which they are responsible. The scrutinies therefore rely heavily on self-examination. The main elements are the application of a fresh mind to the policy, function

"questioning all aspects of what is normally taken for granted". Officials selected to run the inquiry will have a range inside their departments.

Derek writes: "officials selected should be asked to examine the specified part of their department's functions in detail, and to discuss with their own department, consulting other departments and going right outside Government where appropriate. They should ask appropriate questions: 'Is it work at all? Why is it done? How could it be done more easily and effectively at less cost?'

is clearly concerned that servants working on the "scrutiny programme" may be d by their departmental staff. To prevent that, Sir himself will become involved in each investigation to warn his team not to let their draft reports "to a summary examination within a department which has the of diminishing or substantially altering such conclusions and recommendations as

Sir Derek Rayner, adviser on eliminating government waste.

uity provides 000 to stop atre closing

ur Theatre Reporter
The British Veterinary Association yesterday called for an immediate ban on imports of whale products because it believes that methods of killing are inhumane. Mr Neal King, chairman of the association's advisory committee on animal welfare, urged the Government to take a lead on this issue. It was being discussed by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, and members of the Common Market partners. But the Government could act without delay. Mr King said that substitutes for whale products existed, including replacements for sperm oil to which some commercial interests attached great importance.

Animal experiments: The association appealed for measures to be introduced to tighten control and supervision over live animals used for laboratory experiments, (the Press Association reports).

Alternative methods should be found. The association accepted, at its annual meeting, that animal experimentation was necessary at the present stage of scientific knowledge.

Experiments on animals had led, and continued to lead, to significant advances in human and veterinary medicine.

Vets call for UK to lead ban on whale imports

By our Science Editor

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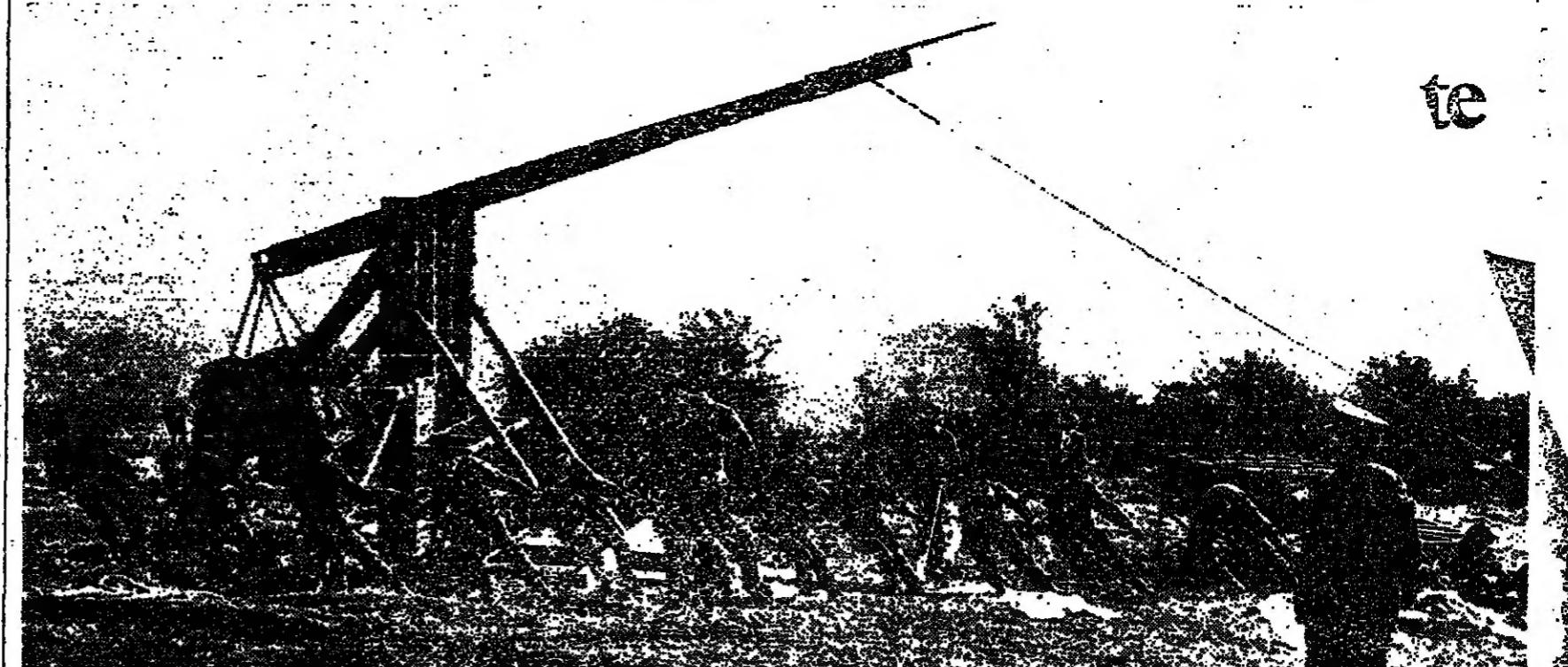
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The Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Engineers, erecting a one-third scale model of a trebuchet at medieval siege artillery firing tests at Old Park Barracks, Dover, yesterday. The model was built by pupils of Highbury Grove School, London.

Alcohol significant in half of all murders

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

Alcohol played a significant part in half the murders cases sampled in an analysis by staff of the Parole Board. Lord Harris of Greenwich, its chairman, said yesterday.

He gave three examples to members of the local review committee of Kent prisons. In one case a mentally disturbed youth aged 20, spent most of a day in a public house, drank an immense quantity of alcohol, then went out and killed a woman aged 90.

In another, a middle-aged man who was a voluntary patient at a mental hospital wrongly suspected his wife of having an affair. He drank most of a bottle of whisky, then went out and shot her.

In the third case a young man attending a late-night party in a block of flats became drunk, staggered against the door of a flat that was not properly shut and, when the elderly woman who lived there got up to discover what was going on, struck her to the ground. She died and he said he could remember little, if anything, of what had happened.

Lord Harris said: "The relationship between alcoholism and violent crime is one of the most serious issues facing our criminal justice system". Since becoming chairman of the board this year he had become increasingly concerned about the

large number of cases the board had reviewed, in which drink had played an important part.

Many of the heaviest drinkers involved were often those least able to withstand the effects of alcohol. They were inadequate, mentally unstable or subnormal. Often they had a background of acute deprivation. They came from homes in which one parent at least had had a background of alcoholism or mental illness.

Drink was also a factor in about half the cases of unpremeditated violence considered by the board. Crimes of violence rose between 1969 and 1978 by 130 per cent. In 1978, when indictable offences known to the police fell by 3 per cent, crimes of violence still rose by 6 per cent.

Lord Harris said the difficulty was that if action was taken it could have a significant impact on millions of ordinary people who wanted to buy liquor whenever they wanted it.

It was the duty of others to spell out a detailed national policy. Swingeing sentences would not be themselves be an answer. "All I can say is that we must accept that unless we begin to consider drawing up a firm plan to deal with alcohol abuse, the present serious level of violent crime will not diminish".

On Monday, the World Health Organization launched its campaign against excessive drinking.

Bishops accuse the Prime Minister of fanning prejudice against minorities

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

Proposals by bishops at government proposals to change immigration rules are gathering strength. Eighties have signed a statement in today's *Church Times* advertising a call to fellow Christians "and men of good will everywhere to identify themselves with the cause of racial justice".

The statement says that while "the National Front and similar organizations are crudely and blatantly evil and must be totally resisted, Christians must resist even more strongly the institutionalized racism which some highly placed politicians have made respectable and which they exploit for electoral

pride".

The signatories include the bishops of suffragans of Bir-

mingham, Bristol, Chelmsford, Lichfield, Lincoln, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Namibia-in-Exile, Newcastle, Ripon, Southwark, Sherborne, and Stepney. The future Archbishop of Canterbury, at present Bishop of St Albans, has signed, as has a past Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Ramsey.

The statement says that "since more people have left this country than have entered it since 1970, the Prime Minister's remarks about 'being swamped', first made last year and repeated during the election, and his calls for a 'clear prospect of an end to immigration' have in practice the effect of fanning racial prejudice".

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Mr Lyon referred to a case in which Lord Scarman removed the protection to persons settled here before 1973 to remain. In

1973, the House of Lords ruled, against the intention of Parliament, that the power to remove illegal immigrants could be exercised retrospectively. In successive judgments he said the courts have progressively widened the interpretation of who is an illegal immigrant.

Unlike deportation, there is no appeal against "removal" so that the person can be arrested, imprisoned and removed out of trial, he added.

Prison board seeks inquiry publication

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

The Board of Visitors at Wormwood Scrubs has written to Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, asking him to publish the results of an inquiry into a disturbance in the prison.

Fifty-four prisoners and 11 officers were injured, receiving cuts, bruises and abrasions.

The inquiry is being held by Mr Keith Gibson, the Prison Department's south east

regional director. So far, Mr Whitelaw has promised only to report to the House.

A letter from a probation officer to the Howard League for Penal Reform gives this description of a client's observation on what took place in "D" wing on August 31: "Mr X tells me that he was at the back of the hall, so was not injured, but as he was led out of the hall, he had to climb over about eight or nine men lying unconscious in pools of

blood. The prison hospital ran out of stitching material as there were so many injured.

The Home Office last night denied that the hospital had run short of stitching material.

In reply to a question by Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Ormskirk, the Home Secretary included: "Wormwood

Scrubs in a list of places where a new 'MUFTI' squad had been used: MUFTI stands for "Minimum use of force tactical intervention squad".

Our revolutionary energy-saving invention.

It's helped our customers save millions of therms this year alone!



Congratulations to E. & E. Kaye Ltd. of Enfield and to the Royal County of Berkshire. They're this year's winners of the Gas Energy Management Awards.

Congratulations, too, to all the competitors—between them they saved over nine million therms for Britain.

Award for Industry

The winners of the Industrial Award, E. & E. Kaye Ltd., working with the Technical Consultancy Service of Eastern Gas, saved 75% of the fuel used on a 20 tonne furnace—over a quarter of a million therms a year. And boosted productivity as well.

Award for Commerce
Working in partnership with the Technical Consultancy Service of Southern Gas, the Royal County of Berkshire cut fuel consumption in 60 schools, libraries and fire stations by 20%—saving 164,000 therms of gas during the year. First class energy management, and it will all help with the rates.

Everyone's a winner
Everyone's a winner in our GEM competition because they all save energy. By the end of the century total savings will be hundreds of millions of therms, which will release valuable energy for use elsewhere and produce big savings for those involved, as well as such additional benefits as increased productivity and reduced maintenance problems.

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BRITISH GAS

WEST EUROPE

British want EEC cash to buy arms, says Tass

Michael Binyon

Moscow, Nov 29

The Russians today described Mrs Thatcher's request for changes in the EEC budget as a trick to get her European partners to pay for Britain's increased military spending.

A commentator for the official news agency Tass said hundreds of millions of European currency units would have to be paid by the Community members "only because the British Conservatives are not happy about detente and are in a hurry to impose on Europe a new round of the arms race".

Tass said Mrs Thatcher was trying to persuade the EEC that Britain was one of the poorest countries in the Community and that the rich countries should loosen their purse-strings to help.

The commentator said it is precisely "poor Britain" that appears now one of the main advocates of rejecting the proposal to reduce the level of military confrontation in Europe, insisting on the deployment on the Continent of the new American nuclear weapons.

The commentator said the British themselves, who were getting poorer, would have to pay something towards the arms race. The money would be taken from social programmes.

The Fontenelle water has been exploited for nearly 20 years,

Portuguese Socialists confident of majority in Sunday's elections

From Jose Shercliff

Lisbon, Nov 29

Thirteen political parties are campaigning in Portugal's parliamentary elections, called by President Eanes for next Sunday.

The general elections would not normally have taken place until 1980.

But these intermediate elections have been called in view of the failure of three successive non-party prime ministers to form a government with majority support in Parliament.

These were Senhor Nobre da Costa, a businessman, Carlos da Mota Pinto, a lawyer, Maria da Lourdes and the present Prime Minister, Senhora Pintasigo, formerly the Portuguese ambassador to Unesco in Paris.

Dr Mario Soares, the Socialist leader, who was Prime Minister of the first two constitutional governments, is waging a countrywide party cam-

paign. He expresses confidence that his party will be returned with an overall majority and that he will be able to form the next government. Certainly, local political commentators confirm that his general popularity has increased during his campaign, in spite of his previous adverse reception not only in ultra-right but also in some left-wing constituencies.

Dr Francisco So. Carneiro, head of the Social Democrats (PSD), is equally confident that he will lead a government of his supporters. For the electoral campaign, the Social Democrats have formed an alliance with Senhor Freitas do Amaral's Christian Democratic Party and the smaller Monarchist Party (TPM).

The Portuguese Communist Party (PCP), led by its veteran chief, Dr Alvaro Cunhal, also hopes for more power, based on its strength in the southern

Alentejo agricultural province, and the workers' vote in the industrial belt around Lisbon and Oporto in the north. It has formed an electioneering alliance with the Popular Democratic Movement (MDP).

Among other competing parties are the left-wing Socialists headed by Senhor Lopes Cardoso, the former Agricultural Minister, the little Popular Democratic Union (UDP), which had one representative in the last National Assembly, the Christian Democratic Party (PDC), the Marxist-Leninist PCP, and other small ultra-left-wing groups.

Urgent appeals are being made to the seven million electors to vote in this poll. Among others, the Roman Catholic bishops are appealing to political wavers, claiming that to vote anti-Communist is to save the country from chaos.

Perrier fights water bottling ban

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, Nov 29

The prefect of the Yvelines has ordered the destruction of all the water bottled at the Fontenelle spring, near Fontainebleau, because the departmental laboratory has reported that it is producing water with dangerous levels of microbes and chemicals.

The Fontenelle water has been exploited for nearly 20 years,

and the 240 workers there have been bottling 10 million bottles a year for the Perrier group, which now controls the spring. It was widely sold in supermarkets and in bulk to hospitals.

M Laurent Clement, the prefect, decided to have stocks of the water destroyed and to stop further bottling after laboratory tests on a dozen sample bottles carried out by the department showed streptococci and colo-

bacillus, plus a nitrate level which could provoke blood diseases in small babies.

The Perrier group strongly contests the findings of the department's laboratories and claims that its own tests show the water is perfectly safe.

The Ministry of Health has now been asked to make its own checks, and what threatens to be a long inquiry is under way.

He cited the Second Vatican Council's statement that Christians believed in one living God, in charity and in the omnipotent creator of Heaven and Earth who had spoken to men. They tried to submit as Abraham had submitted.

They venerated Jesus as a prophet even if not recognizing him as god. They honoured the Virgin Mary whom they invoked at times with devotion. They awaited the Day of Judgment and for this reason held in honour the moral life and turned often to God, with prayer, alms and fasting.

He even quoted, ironically, from the Koran which few if any Popes can have done. After quoting the Second Book of Genesis which fascinates him so much, he added a pa-

ge from the gurus of the Koran which spoke of how God "invited his spirit into man" and "gave him hearing and sight and heart".

The Pope made it clear that he saw belief in monotheistic faiths as a basis for proper human conduct. Faith in God, he said, was professed in common by the descendants of Abraham, whether Christians, Muslims or Jews and when lived sincerely and made a part of life was a secure foundation for the dignity of the fraternity and for the liberty of men and a principle for right conduct in life. And Abraham had submitted.

They were not expected that the Pope would be explicit in judging the conduct of individual Muslims or Muslim countries, and this was the one reference he made to behaviour which some feel was the nearest he could get to making a direct comment on the Iranian situation.

He then flew to Ankara where the Pope was greeted by leaders of half a dozen Christian communities led by the Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios of Constantinople. As soon as the Pope had finished meeting the local authorities, he moved towards the eclesiasticas and the Patriarch stepped forward to embrace him warmly.

This was the prelude to a day rich in ecumenical importance. The Pope and the Patriarch took part in a joint celebration in the Patriarch's Church of St Andrew, his Church's patron.

The Pope will attend this Orthodox service at St George's and so the summit will have been reached of ecumenical progress so far achieved between Catholics and Orthodox.

Pope calls for closer links with Muslims

From Peter Nichols

Istanbul, Nov 29

The Pope today ended the silence which has so far marked his Turkish visit to make a remarkable statement of the Roman Catholic Church's esteem for Islam.

He did this shortly before arriving here to break totally new ground by visiting the famous Ottoman palace of Topkapi and the magnificent Basilica of Santa Sofia which the Turks turned into a mosque after their fifteenth-century conquest of the city.

Urgent appeals are being made to the seven million electors to vote in this poll. Among others, the Roman Catholic bishops are appealing to political wavers, claiming that to vote anti-Communist is to save the country from chaos.

His speech for understanding of the religious values of what he called "the vast world of Islam" was made at Ankara in the chapel of the Italian Embassy. He was speaking to

catholic families in the Turkish capital but his words evidently were intended to have a much wider significance.

He said of the Muslim faith: "When I think of this spiritual patrimony and of the values it has for man and for society, of its capacity to offer above all to the young a direction to their lives, to fill the void left by materialism, to give a sure foundation to the very social and juridical order, I ask myself if it is not urgent, just as Christians and Muslims have entered a new period of their history, to recognize and develop the spiritual ties which unite us."

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The Pope and the Patriarch Dimitrios embrace as the Pope arrives at Istanbul airport.

recited a "Te Deum" together and the Lord's Prayer, the Patriarch speaking in Greek and the Pope in Latin.

In the afternoon the Pope saw the two Armenian Patriarchs. One is Catholic and the other Orthodox.

During the meeting in St George's, Greeks in the audience applauded the Pope, some shouting "Viva il Papa".

The Pope's mind was no doubt made up in the day's ecumenical issue.

It had begun immediately on his arrival at Istanbul airport from Ankara where the Pope was greeted by leaders of half a dozen Christian communities led by the Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios of Constantinople. As soon as the Pope had finished meeting the local authorities, he moved towards the eclesiasticas and the Patriarch stepped forward to embrace him warmly.

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Fouquet's falls foul of women liberationists

From Ian Murray

Paris, Nov 29

Fouquet's, the great traditional restaurant and cafe that sprawls luxuriously round the base of the Champs Elysees and the Avenue George V, is in trouble. It has fallen foul of some of its best customers—the women of finance who are in danger of finding a noted scalpel on the table of the women's liberation movement.

According to the less than respected "Gaz" and "Million Guide", "Fouquet's" is a place where the clientele tends to be older, more garrulous, more inclined to gossip, more inclined to a grosser, more unrefined taste. The women of finance who are in danger of finding a noted scalpel on the table of the women's liberation movement.

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The two doctors, Mme Marthe Lazarus and Mme Caroline Lazarus, were outraged. They "demanded to be served in the women's section" and were refused, unless, she said, "Can't you see I'm in a hurry?"

She was shown the yellowing notice and refused to be served in the women's section.

The management of Fouquet's then removed the notice. It was pointed to a yellowing notice on the wood panelled wall: "Unaccompanied ladies are not admitted to the bar." Signed "The Management".

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She was then Fouquet's little back bar, which has been converted into a women's section. At lunchtime today, some women, dressed in the appearance of the female sex who have a job incompatible with the sort of place Fouquet's should be.

Fouquet's say their rule is to serve them. They pointed to a yellowing notice on the wood panelled wall: "Unaccompanied ladies are not admitted to the bar." Signed "The Management".

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Tax demand on prostitute 'immoral'

Paris, Nov 29. A prostitute in Switzerland is pressuring the French Government for living off immoral earnings. "I'm a Sodouise," a leading member of the French prostitutes' organisation, said the charge yesterday before a court.

She recently received a tax demand for 410,000 francs (£45,000). This has been issued by the tax authorities on the basis that she "received" an average of five clients a day for 200 days a year over the last eight years, and that clients paid her an average of 200 francs each.

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VERSEAS

Chilean church reveals secret burial of missing coup victims

By Florencio Vargas
Diego, Nov 29

An unusual funeral took place in the village of Laja today. The remains of 21 people were laid to rest in small wooden boxes in a communal grave. It was the funeral for the remains—skulls, 58 thigh bones and jaw—contained in the

box. They were buried for the time by the Carabineros (police) soon after their return from 1973 military

in Chile, in a pine forest. Yumbel, a market town 10 miles south of the capital, where dogs began to show up in the secret graves. Carabineros dug them up, reburied them in a plot in the cemetery.

At month, the remains were recovered by Señor José Inez, an official of the Court of Appeals of Concepcion, was following up a well-known claim by the church authorities that the bodies secretly buried in the plot corresponded to 21 missing persons arrested in San Rosendo in 1973. The dead were local peasants and union leaders. Father Antonio Pugh, who attended today's funeral, said: "The people always knew where they were buried, but fear that might suffer the same fate stopped them from speaking

the secret of the military that overthrew President Salvador Allende an estimated 600 persons disappeared. The Church of la Solidaridad, an association affiliated to the Catholic Church, has documented the area of 669 cases out of 2,000.

A first discovery this year made at the lime quarry in Quen, north of Santiago, the bodies of 15 rural workers from the area were found.

At week, Father Ignacio Larrañaga denounced the secret in section 29 of Yumbel, which were uncovered month. A witness of the burials, quoted by the

'Victims of massacre' found in Phnom Penh

From W. P. Reeves,
Wellington, Nov 29

Phnom Penh, Nov 29.—Five mass graves each containing 100 sets of skeletons of adults and children have been discovered in Phnom Penh, the official Kampuchean news agency reported today.

Some of the skeletons had crushed skulls and the arms of others were bound in烈士. The agency quoted eye-witnesses as saying that the people buried in the graves were victims of a massacre of workers and their families three years ago under the Khmer Rouge regime. Agence France-Presse.

Treason accusation: Vietnam today accused Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the former Kampuchean head of state, of treason.

The Hanoi newspaper, *Nhan Dan*, complained that Prince Sihanouk has disowned the Vietnamese-backed administration in Phnom Penh and thus terminated Vietnam's actions in Kampuchea "aggressive and colonialist."

Prince Sihanouk arrived in Paris last Sunday and called for an international conference to end the fighting in Kampuchea.

Food held up: Mr. Matthew Niman, acting co-ordinator of the American relief effort, said in Washington today that several thousand tonnes of food had been sent to Phnom Penh in recent weeks but had not been distributed. A State Department official said that possibly 10,000 tonnes, out of 13,000 tonnes sent in, were still in warehouses.—Reuter.

For the past five years there have been growing demands to clarify the fate of the missing people. Their families can missing loved ones. But the Government's reply to queries is that many acts of violence took place immediately after the 1973 coup as a result of its groups and the armed forces.

The Government explains that the delay in clarifying the fate of missing individuals is due to the difficulty of identification, many activists had double identities, people believed to have disappeared have appeared abroad or have gone underground.

However, the Catholic Church maintains that the Government has not provided sufficient explanation about the fate of 669 persons the church authorities had followed up.

Criticism in Peking of 'democracy wall' grows

By Nov 29.—A campaign in Peking's "democracy wall" began today as official attempted to stir up opinion against the activists who have criticized the regime.

People's Daily gave front-page coverage to meetings of its who supported speeches members of the National People's Congress, China's of Parliament, in favour of banning the wall.

Workers at Peking's main mill were reported to be angered by the activists. said the activists had the Chinese lose face for human rights "in ion with foreigners".

ers said the campaign officially organized. It was as paving the way for a to ban Xidan Wall, as is now in China.

paners at a rally said that a socialist country like enjoying extensive demo with a constitution set according to well-defined and where the rights of

Diplomatic break 'decided fore envoy's kidnapping'

Salvador, Nov 29.—The American republic of Salvador has suspended relations with South Africa because of its apartheid policies. official announcement ded with the kidnapping yesterday, by unidentified men, of the South African ambassador, Mr. Archibald

was seized in front of his by as he was about to go for. A Foreign ministry spokesman said the on to suspend diplomatic with South Africa was before Mr. Dunn's kidnapping but all efforts would ade to rescue him un-

domestic sources said the Salvadorean civilian-military apparently decided to ties with South Africa after taking power from Lieutenant Carlos Alberto on October 15.

ambassador's 23-year-old Mr. Robin Dunn, made an published by newspapers

Berlin visit planned by Gromyko

Our Correspondent
Nov 29

Andrei Gromyko, the Foreign Minister, will East Berlin soon. ADN, last German news agency, the visit was arranged by Herr Erich Honecker, East German leader, and A. Abramov, the Soviet ambassador to East Germany, it was announced.

Gromyko could come in connexion with the conference Warsaw Pact's foreign ministers in East Berlin, next or pay an extra visit.

Gromyko visited Bonn week. His remarks made a press conference a lively debate in the on the Soviet Union's to the question of Nato's range rocket missiles Western Europe.

Space metal monument for Yuri Gagarin

Moscow, Nov 29.—Favel Bondarenko, a Soviet sculptor, is designing a 130ft monument in cast titanium to Yuri Gagarin, the first man in space, Tass reported today.

The monument, which will include a 40ft statue of the cosmonaut, will stand in the north of the Soviet capital.

The Gagarin monument will be the first sculpture to be made of cast titanium, a lustrous silver-white metal widely used in the construction of spacecraft because of its light weight and resistance to heat and pressure.—UPI.

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Monkey business

Jakarta, Nov 29.—Officials in the central Celebes area of Indonesia are considering importing monkeys for training as coconut pickers.

US gave warning of Polar flight dangers

From W. P. Reeves,
Wellington, Nov 29

Bangkok, Nov 29.—Five mass graves each containing 100 sets of skeletons of adults and children have been discovered in Phnom Penh, the official Kampuchean news agency reported today.

Some of the skeletons had crushed skulls and the arms of others were bound in烈士.

The agency quoted eye-witnesses as saying that the people buried in the graves were victims of a massacre of workers and their families three years ago under the Khmer Rouge regime. Agence France-Presse.

Treason accusation: Vietnam today accused Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the former Kampuchean head of state, of treason.

The Hanoi newspaper, *Nhan Dan*, complained that Prince Sihanouk has disowned the Vietnamese-backed administration in Phnom Penh and thus terminated Vietnam's actions in Kampuchea "aggressive and colonialist."

Food held up: Mr. Matthew Niman, acting co-ordinator of the American relief effort, said in Washington today that several thousand tonnes of food had been sent to Phnom Penh in recent weeks but had not been distributed. A State Department official said that possibly 10,000 tonnes, out of 13,000 tonnes sent in, were still in warehouses.—Reuter.

For the past five years there have been growing demands to clarify the fate of the missing people. Their families can missing loved ones. But the Government's reply to queries is that many acts of violence took place immediately after the 1973 coup as a result of its groups and the armed forces.

The Government explains that the delay in clarifying the fate of missing individuals is due to the difficulty of identification, many activists had double identities, people believed to have disappeared have appeared abroad or have gone underground.

However, the Catholic Church maintains that the Government has not provided sufficient explanation about the fate of 669 persons the church authorities had followed up.

The disaster, the worst in New Zealand's history in terms of lives lost, has highlighted warnings from United States Antarctic authorities about flights of this kind.

Air New Zealand has flown 14 such sightseeing trips in the last three years.

Critics had given warnings that a lack of adequate facilities could lead to disaster in the hazardous environment if anything went wrong. In Washington, last week, an ad hoc committee expressed concern about the dangers arising from increased tourist flights over the Antarctic.

Temperatures on the volcano were below zero and swirling winds made it impossible for the helicopter to land. The mountaineers stayed only briefly, inspecting scattered wreckage, before being hauled back to the helicopter.

The airliner was carrying 237 passengers and 30 crew on a sightseeing flight from Auckland to the Antarctic when it crashed.

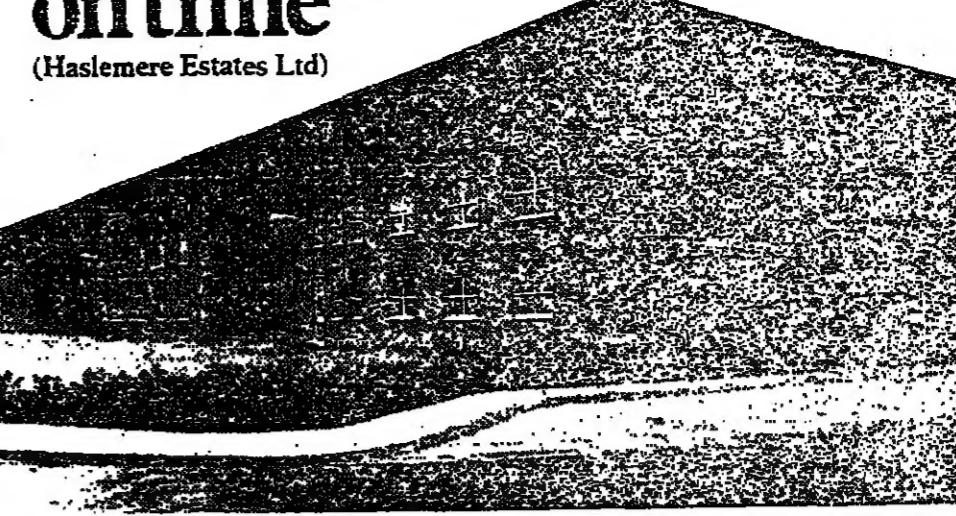
A four-man team from the McDonnell Douglas company which manufactured the DC-10 are expected to arrive in New Zealand tomorrow as are other aviation officials. They will help New Zealand authorities try to establish the cause of the crash.

A team of police mountaineers experienced in the region left this afternoon for the Antarctic. They will work from Scott base to recover the bodies. Progress will depend very much on the weather in this forbidding land.

The disaster, the worst in New Zealand's history in terms of lives lost, has highlighted warnings from United States Antarctic authorities about flights of this kind.

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Rekord fuel consumption figures Government fuel consumption test

Imperial MPG	Metric L/100 km
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OVERSEAS.

54 Congressmen urge Mr Carter to issue ultimatum to Iran backed by threat of military action

From David Cross
Washington, Nov 29

A group of 54 members of the House of Representatives today called on President Carter to issue an ultimatum to Iran for the release of the remaining 49 hostages at the American Embassy in Tehran.

Mr Carter should set a deadline for the release of the hostages and if this was not met "initiate specified military operations against Iran", the Congressmen said when they tabled a resolution calling for such action.

According to the move, Mr Samuel Stratton, a Democrat from New York, said the resolution was designed to support the President in his efforts to solve "this complicated, perplexing, frustrating and dangerous situation".

The adoption of such an approach might well increase the likelihood of a safe release of the hostages with more urgent pressures placed on Iran by neighbouring states unwilling to see the introduction of military operations into the Gulf area, he added.

The idea of issuing an ultimatum was rejected by President Carter during his television press conference in White House last night. Setting a deadline, he said, might result in

harm to, or the death of, the hostages. Many members of Congress are not keen on the idea either. Mr James Wright, the Democratic Leader of the House of Representatives, described the suggestion as "very risky" and probably "counter-productive".

But the fact that about an eighth of the membership of the Lower House is supporting the draft resolution illustrates the growing sense of frustration in the United States at the Administration's apparent inability to secure the release of the hostages.

"What concerns us", Mr Stratton told reporters, "is that if the other courses of action fail to produce results (diplomatic efforts, a meeting of the United Nations Security Council, etc), it is not beyond the realm of possibility that the hostages might continue to be held indefinitely, in captivity, in deplorable conditions, subject to rigged 'spy' trials and other abuses."

"In our view the longer this situation continues unresolved and without a commensurate, overt response from the United States, the greater will be the damage to American prestige and influence, and the greater will be the risk that other Americans in other embassies

President gives grave warning to Tehran

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, Nov 29

President Carter said on television last night that the United States held "the Government of Iran fully responsible for the well-being and the safe return of every single person" among the hostages held in Tehran.

Mr Carter used the measured phrases of traditional diplomacy, and his warning was thereby the more effective. All those in authority in Iran, who know anything of the world, must now realize what is involved.

The President referred to diplomatic efforts to obtain the hostages' release. "We hope that this exercise of diplomacy and the international law will bring a peaceful solution, but a peaceful solution is preferable to the other remedies available to the United States."

At the same time that we pursue such a solution with grim determination, the Government of Iran must realize the gravity of the situation which it has, itself, created and which will result if harm comes to any of the hostages.

After making his statement, Mr Carter was asked about the possibility that the United States might use force against Iran. He replied: "It would not be advisable for me to explore publicly all the options open to our country. As I said earlier, I am determined to do the best I can through diplomatic means and through peaceful means to

ensure the safety of our hostages and their release."

"Other actions which I might decide to take would come in the future after those peaceful means have been exhausted. I believe that the growing condemnation of the world community on Iran will have a beneficial effect."

The President refused to set any deadline for resolving the crisis. Some hopes had been pinned on the Security Council meeting, which is now in doubt because of the change in foreign ministers in Iran. American patience will presumably hold at least until next week when the Shia religious fervour will have abated, the Iranian constitution referendum will be out of the way and the Shah will have returned to Mexico.

The air force carrier Kearsarge is now within range of Iran and the entire and very powerful American fleet now in the Indian Ocean could be anywhere in the region where Carter wants it by next week.

Mr Carter was also asked why he had agreed to allow the Shah to enter the United States, and about allegations that Dr Henry Kissinger had exerted undue pressure on the Administration to that end. He replied: "The decision that I made personally and without pressure from anyone to carry out the principles of our country, to provide for the means of giving the Shah necessary medical assistance to save his life, was proper." The decision was taken entirely on the consent of both parties concerned.

US plea to World Court on hostages

From Robert Fisk
Kabul, Iran, Nov 29

The Hague, Nov 29.—The United States asked the International Court of Justice today to order Iran to release the hostages being held in the American Embassy in Tehran, a United States Embassy spokesman said.

The request was in a letter

from Mr Cyrus Vance, the American Secretary of State, to Sir Humphrey Walpole, the British President of the United Nations Court which sits in the Hague. It is the first time in more than 20 years that the United States has asked the court to intervene on its behalf.

Mr Vance also known as the "World Court to condemn Iran's 'multiple violations of the immunities of the United States diplomats and embassy' in Tehran."

He asked that pending such a judgment the court should order the immediate freeing of the 49 embassy staff who have been held since November 4 by militant students demanding the extradition from the United States of the deposed Shah.

The International Court was set up under the United Nations Charter in 1945. Its decisions are theoretically binding but in practice have been often disregarded because the court has no means of enforcing them.

It was not immediately clear whether the affair could be brought before The Hague court. It can only deal with cases of a formal speech rather than a conversation.

Shah Ibrahim Zauda points to the hard, unwatered land beyond the mud huts, a desert of grey unyielding earth. "The

people here, most of them Turkish in origin with high, shiny cheekbones. Their old grey jackets are torn and their trousers are frayed where the turbans and thorns in the fields have scratched them. They wear cheap plastic sandals. There is only one girl with them, a 13-year-old with dark hair who has wrapped herself shroud-like in a pink and grey shawl veil.

Then things improved for us," Shah Ibrahim Zauda said. "Sar-



Hundreds of thousands of Iranians marching through Tehran yesterday, scouring themselves to mark the anniversary of the martyrdom of Imam Hussain at the battle of Karbala in Iraq. They also chanted "Death to America".

Villagers take over after the departure of the landlords

How two revolutions came in 17 years to Kahak, a place no foreign visitor sees

From Robert Fisk

Kabul, Iran, Nov 29

Kahak is the sort of place no one ever goes to visit. It lies a rectangle of mud and clay single-storey houses, at the end of a dirt road with only a gang of children and a dung heap picked over by foxes.

Shah Ibrahim Zauda left with

the Shab's own, everything on both sides of the road", he says, "but they do not know how much land they have." The heat shimmer and dances on the old and dried-up irrigation ditches. There are no deeds of ownership, no papers and no legal covenants in Kahak now that the landlords have gone.

Through the dust and the heat haze to the north, the Alborz mountain range runs along the horizon, forming the lower lip of the Caspian Sea basin. Foreigners never see Kahak, except perhaps the passengers on the night train to the Soviet frontier as it skirts the village orchards.

Even then, it is doubtful if they would notice Kahak. It is so small that its 950 inhabitants cannot support a mosque of their own. A mulah, a prematurely aging man of 64 with a stick of perspiration running down his face from beneath his turban and a shirt front covered in dirt, has to travel up from Qazvin to minister to the faithful.

He is a man capable of extraordinary energy and as he walks nimbly round the heaps of manure and puddles of gilded, foetid water, he talks about the village in a possessive, slightly rhetorical, almost sermonising way, his voice rising and falling in the cadence of a formal speech rather than a conversation.

Shah Ibrahim Zauda points to the hard, unwatered land beyond the mud huts, a desert of grey unyielding earth. "The

people here, most of them

Turkish in origin with high, shiny cheekbones. Their old grey jackets are torn and their trousers are frayed where the turbans and thorns in the fields have scratched them. They wear cheap plastic sandals. There is only one girl with them, a 13-year-old with dark hair who has wrapped herself shroud-like in a pink and grey shawl veil.

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villagers own, everything on both sides of the road", he says, "but they do not know how much land they have." The heat shimmer and dances on the old and dried-up irrigation ditches. There are no deeds of ownership, no papers and no legal covenants in Kahak now that the landlords have gone.

Private holdings were redistributed and landowners could benefit in the long term from such reforms, as Shah Ibrahim Zauda makes clear. "There were no good things for us in the reforms. The number of sheep owned by the villagers went up from 2,000 to 3,000. But the village itself, instead of being owned by two men, was now owned by a government agent, Darvud Gilani, a giant of a man from the town of Qazvin in the north. He was a big man and workers remained untouched.

Kahak, it seems, did not benefit in the long term from such reforms, as Shah Ibrahim Zauda makes clear. "There were no good things for us in the reforms. The number of sheep owned by the villagers went up from 2,000 to 3,000. But the village itself, instead of being owned by two men, was now owned by a government agent, Darvud Gilani, a giant of a man from the town of Qazvin in the north. He was a big man and workers remained untouched.

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Private holdings were redistributed

VERSEAS

'Akistan journalist receives year's hard labour for an article

By Hasan Akhtar

Islamabad, Nov 29.—Muslim Ali, the Pakistani respondent of the Hong Kong-based weekly *For Eastern Economic Review*, was today sentenced to a year's rigorous imprisonment by a one-man military court presided over by Major Munir. Salamat Ali wrote an article "Baluchistan, an upheaval cast" which was published in the *Review's* October 19 issue.

He was brought before the court with 10 hands manacled and escorted by two policemen. Not four inches from the judge's desk to be read out and the tips of verdict of guilty given, or Munir held that the article attempted to create among different provinces of Pakistan, that it is territorial and administrative dismemberment of Pakistan and excited dissatisfaction against the martial law.

During his rebuttal of the case, Mr Salamat Ali had said before the court that his article was a fair appraisal of situation in Baluchistan that he had tried to strike balance between the conflict-Baluchi views. He asserted his article did not go and had commented and said that he was neither a terrorist nor an agitator; his story was his dearest asset.

Mr Salamat Ali began his career as a journalist about 20 years ago and was once detained for a brief spell under President Ayub Khan's martial law for an alleged violation of the Official Secrets Act during the early sixties.

The charge was dropped.

Meanwhile, the 3rd martial law administrator, Lieutenant-General S. M. Abbasi, has ordered the closure of Karachi's English daily, the *Morning News* until completion of an inquiry into an article the newspaper published on November 19. The article was considered to have injured the feelings of the Shi'ite sect.

The inquiry is to be completed within a week to fix the responsibility for publication of the article.

Hongkong, Nov 29.—The *For Eastern Economic Review* has appealed to President Zia-ul-Haq of Pakistan to exercise clemency for Mr Salamat Ali.

In a message to the editor, Mr Derek Davies said: "We would respectfully draw your attention to the fact that the chief prosecution witness described the article complained of in court as presenting a reasonable interpretation of the situation in the province of Baluchistan. Please restore our faith in your country's justice by granting clemency."—Reuters.

Leading article, page 15

Afghan army under attack as rebels renew fighting

Jamabad, Nov 29.—Muslim rebels have launched a counter-attack in the Paktia province of Afghanistan in an attempt to recapture the strongholds from which they were ousted last month by the tier-buckled Afghan forces, a spokesman said today.

The fighting began a week ago in Jaji district near the frontier with Pakistan where at least 150 rebels carried out a "counter-offensive" against rebels at the end of October, fighting there and in Manzad district near forced an estimated 40,000 refugees to across the frontier into Iran.

The spokesman for the Islamic Union of Islamic Fighters, a loose banding of four rebel groups, said the Mujahideen (Muslim fighters) had overrun Gawi, a military post near the border.

In Kunar province, further north, the Afghan army had been beaten back by the rebels.

Government armoured columns and infantry had moved out of Chagazare, a besieged garrison at the southern end of the province, at the weekend, he added, but the sortie was checked after heavy fighting and the Government forces returned to their redoubts.

Reuters



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Growing number of parents are putting restrictions on their children's viewing

Anti-social TV worries Australians

From Douglas Aitken

Melbourne, Nov 29

Ali was charged with the death sentence which can be given by a higher military court.

While Mr Salamat Ali immediately begins his year's hard labour, like an ordinary convict, Mr Tasker is exploring the possibilities of appealing against the conviction.

Mr Salamat Ali, aged 47 and married with four children, heard the sentence without obvious emotion. The packed court was silent as he signed for a pin to be inserted falling as the Major read out the sentence. His family was not there.

Mr Salamat Ali began his career as a journalist about 20 years ago and was once detained for a brief spell under President Ayub Khan's martial law for an alleged violation of the Official Secrets Act during the early sixties.

The charge was dropped.

Meanwhile, the 3rd martial law administrator, Lieutenant-General S. M. Abbasi, has ordered the closure of Karachi's English daily, the *Morning News* until completion of an inquiry into an article the newspaper published on November 19. The article was considered to have injured the feelings of the Shi'ite sect.

The inquiry is to be completed within a week to fix the responsibility for publication of the article.

Hongkong, Nov 29.—The *For Eastern Economic Review* has appealed to President Zia-ul-Haq of Pakistan to exercise clemency for Mr Salamat Ali.

In a message to the editor, Mr Derek Davies said: "We would respectfully draw your attention to the fact that the chief prosecution witness described the article complained of in court as presenting a reasonable interpretation of the situation in the province of Baluchistan. Please restore our faith in your country's justice by granting clemency."—Reuters.

Leading article, page 15

Briton imprisoned for leaving US Navy

From a Special Correspondent

Philadelphia, Nov 29

Because of a mix-up over his discharge papers, a self-employed electrical contractor from Claygate, Surrey, has been sentenced to nine months' hard labour for walking away from his United States naval training post during the Vietnam War.

Ronald Mounsey, aged 29, will continue to be held in the jail of the United States naval base here where he has been held since August.

Mr Mounsey was stunned by the sentence, the stiffer than the sentence, the stiffer than the military judge could have imposed under a plea bargain agreement. He had pleaded guilty to taking an unauthorized absence from a Navy radio school since 1970 to avoid desertion charges.

He is a dual national, born in St Louis, Missouri, to British parents. "My case has been treated with a blindfold," he complained.

Mr Mounsey thought he had been dishonorably discharged until United States Customs agents at Kennedy airport, New York, arrested him on August 25. He and his British companion, Jacqueline Prentiss, aged 26, had planned a holiday in New York City.

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From cars to health: it is time the public found out what really goes on

Why are we so secret about our secrets?

Official secrecy has much more to do with protecting the government from embarrassment than with the nation's security'

The good news is that the Government has stood down the Protection of Official Information Bill, which had earned almost universal condemnation. But the worry now is what will replace it.

What is not sufficiently recognized is the huge area of public life which is currently concealed from the British public by the bureaucratic classification of relevant documents as "confidential" or "secret" which in no way can be justified as legitimate.

It is, of course, legitimate to protect documents which are concerned with national security, commercially sensitive data, individual privacy or the arrest and detention of persons suspected of crime.

But outside these areas what could, and should, be brought into the open so that the public begins to find out what is really going on?

One example of great interest to consumers concerns government product testing. This is done on a large scale, with comparative performance data on a wide range of consumer goods; yet most is not

published, even though the public is paying for it.

Take one specific illustration: both Britain and the United States ban some food additives where safety tests are adverse. But whereas in the United States the test results are open to public inspection, in Britain the Ministry of Agriculture claims up even on data which has already been published by United Nations and other public sources.

Similarly, the removal of United Kingdom meat packing plants, after failing inspections, from approved lists of exporters to the United States is made known in the United States, but not in the United Kingdom.

Again, in Britain harbour

masters and ships' health officers keep their reports confidential so that the British public does not know which passenger liners have high rates of food poisoning or gastro-enteritis. But in America the disturbing deficiencies in hygiene standards of some British cruise liners are made known to American consumers and travel agents by health officers.

Many other examples from the consumer field can be given. In the area of transport, where safety issues may be a matter of life or death, the British public under the present "official secrets" regime are for some inexplicable reason denied relevant knowledge which is available to the authorities.

For example, what are the results of inspections, for incompetence or fraud, of registered MOT testing stations? What is the different safety record of cars, as revealed by

the road accident statistics, analyzed by make and model? What is the information contained in the background papers to public inquiries on motorway proposals? Which county councils have failed to publish draft traffic orders, as required under the 1973 Act, controlling lorries in the interests of amenity?

None of this is known, yet not only do there seem no justifiable grounds for concealment, there are surely very positive reasons why the public should know these things.

Philip Howard continues the series of new words and new meanings

Crocodiles never did shed tears

Enough crocodile tears have been shed during the past year to burst the banks of the Thames as well as the Limpopo. This increase in crocodilian misery must indicate that we are becoming more hypocritically malicious. It certainly indicates that the cliché has become as indispensable to the language as white elephants and Cheshire Cats.

Our wits from Spenser and Shakespeare to Lewis Carroll have found the image for a wise sympathizer, gloating while his tears splash, irresistible. As is usual, Bacon carved the cliché into a sententious marble: "It is a wisdom of crocodiles, that shed tears when they would yea."

A puzzling question, though one not beyond all conjecture, is who invented the metaphor.

Although their eyes have large inciting membranes, the crocodiles do not blub. Herodotus, who visited Egypt at least once in the fifth century BC, reported delightfully about the

crocodile: "It has eyes like a great teet, and rusks in proportion. It is the only animal that has no tongue. Nor does it move its lower jaw." And so on.

So curious an investigative reporter would surely not have left out the crocodile tears, if the fabule had been current at the time.

The geographer Strabo visited the Nile four centuries after Herodotus. He found a tame crocodile called Suchos like a creature escaped from the black lagoon of Rider Haggard's imagination. It had jewels in its ears, golden bangles on its feet, and a diet of sacrificial roast meat and cakes; but no tears.

As late as AD 355 the priests

at Crocodilopolis were feeding

their sacred crocodiles, but the pampered brutes still did not

weep, even though monotheism

in the shape of Christianity and

Islam was about to end

their soft life.

There is then a gap of nearly

a thousand years. Erasmus referred to crocodile tears. An early reference in English is in Thomas Cooper's Latin-English thesaurus of 1548: "A proverb, applied unto them which hating another man, whom they would destroy, or have destroyed, they will seem to be sorry for him."

Crocodile tears were known to Bertholomaeus Anglicus, a Franciscan who taught in Paris around 1225. In his encyclopaedia he wrote: "If the crocodile findeth a man by the

brim of the water, or by the cliff, he slayeth him if he may, and then he weepeth upon him and swalloweth him at last." Bartholomew's story was repeated in Mandeville's *Travels*, written at Liege in 1357 by an unknown author who had probably never left Europe. This was a best-seller with the non-travelling public, who broadened their minds by staying at home and reading the equivalent of the colour magazines of the day on the subject of exotic marvels.

The old words with an old meaning have lasted well and become a valuable cliché for

Learned crocodile-watchers have so far been unable to trace a reference earlier than Bartholomew's to the fable of the crocodile weeping, either to allure a man for the purpose of eating him, or while eating him. The best guess is that a monk in the Dark Ages invented the fable with an improving moral to adorn his bestiary.

The old words with an old meaning have lasted well and become a valuable cliché for

saying something neatly that could not be said otherwise without circumlocution. There are tears in the old croc yet.

The ancient logical puzzle called "the crocodile" has lasted less well than crocodile tears. In it the crocodile grabs a child. Mother screams. Crocodile speaking with mouth full:

"I will give it back, if you tell me the truth. Mother, cunningly: "You will not give me back my baby. Conundrum: is it the duty of the crocodile to

give back the child?"

Who is backing the assisted places scheme?

A few, if any, of the Government's education proposals have provoked such widespread opposition as its proposal to subsidize independent school fees for less well-off pupils.

All the teachers' unions and lead teachers' associations are passionately against the scheme; the majority of chief education officers are opposed; local authorities, including many which are Tory-controlled, deplore it; a number of top independent schools believe it will do them more harm than good; several Conservative MPs, including some front-benchers, are thoroughly embarrassed by it; and even Mr Mark Carlisle, the Education Secretary, appears to have his doubts.

Most of the 119 former direct grant schools, which lost independence in 1976 rather than be forced to go comprehensive, are not surprised

ingly in favour of the scheme. It was the Direct Grant Joint Committee which first put forward the idea of a government-sponsored assisted places scheme in 1972. That proposal was rejected by Mrs Thatcher, the Education Minister of the day. The Prime Minister is now the strongest supporter of the new assisted places scheme.

Under the new scheme the Government intends to help the independent school fees of 80,000 to 100,000 bright children from "poor" families—how poor, and indeed how bright they have to be to be eligible, we have yet to learn. The scheme is expected to cost about £60m in the first year (which the Government hopes will be 1981); rising to £55m at current prices, when it is fully operational.

But money is not the only issue. Local authorities are appalled at the prospect of seeing their brightest and best creamed off, and by the Government's apparent lack of faith in the state system. The headmaster of a voluntary-aided grammar school which is reluctantly considering going independent for fear of being forced to go comprehensive, asks: "Why can't the Government stimulate academic education within the remaining grammar schools? It's up to the state to support its own sector, not to subsidize the

independent sector. Why can't we compete against the independent schools?"

There are 265 grammar schools left in England and Wales. They cater for about 5 per cent of secondary school pupils, slightly less than the proportion in independent schools. Those authorities which fought hard to keep their grammar schools will be relieved to learn that Mr Mark Carlisle is now thinking of avoiding setting up assisted places schools within grammar school catchment areas.

The scheme is still in the drafting stage. Provision is included in the Education Bill, now in its committee stage, for such a scheme to be set up, but most of the details, decisions on eligibility, selection, schools to be involved, size of grant paid and so on, are to be left to the discretion of the Secretary of State.

The sum of £55m, which is not in the Bill but was mentioned by Mr Carlisle in connection with the Government's public expenditure plans, is based on the assumption that 12,000 to 15,000 pupils a year will be receiving average means-tested grants of £500 for the duration of their schooling, with allowances made for inflation.

Average tuition fees of the former direct-grant schools

which are now independent, are around £800 to £1,000. Mr Carlisle is unlikely to accept schools with fees much higher than that. Parents are expected to be reimbursed on a percentage basis, that is, they will be assessed for a grant of, say, 60 per cent of the total fee, whatever the size of fee charged. Some pupils will have all their fees paid. Others will receive no subsidy.

The Secretary of State will have the power to veto any fee increase proposed by a school within the assisted places scheme. He will also have the right to see its annual audited accounts to lay down guidelines for its method of selecting pupils, and to check its academic standards. Failure to maintain standards may mean removal from the scheme.

The number of assisted places offered by any school will depend on Mr Carlisle's estimate of need in the area. At present, schools, all pupils may be eligible to apply for assistance, while in others there may be as few as 10 assisted places each year.

Parents who wish to apply for an assisted place will have to apply on their own initiative, direct to the school in question. The entrance examination will be set by the school. This is bound to favour middle-class families.

The age of entry to the

scheme will be flexible. The Government is actually aware of the special need for sixth-form education in minority subjects in some areas, and is certain to want to make provision for that where state schools are unable to cope.

A letter is to be sent to every independent secondary school by the Department of Education and Science within the next two weeks outlining the scheme and asking schools whether they would be interested in participating. Details of examination results and course provision are requested. Copies of the letter are being sent to education authorities who will be asked if voluntary-aided schools might also be interested. Some two dozen voluntary-aided schools are already considering going independent and applying for the scheme.

The Government is not unaware of the opposition to its scheme. But it or at least Mrs Thatcher believes that it holds a trump card which will enable it to emerge victorious—the support of the very people for whom the scheme is principally designed, the parents. Every parent believes they might have a bright child.

Diana Geddes

Education Correspondent

WASHINGTON DIARY

"For £5, share the good life this Christmas with the old and lonely."

Richard Briers



To thousands of old people Christmas means the usual cheerless chilly room, with no-one to talk to and not enough to eat. In hunger-stricken places overseas one meagre meal a day is all some old people get—so disease threatens. No one makes your money do more than Help the Aged—thank you to volunteers, so send a goodwill gift now. And share your Christmas cheer.

£30 does a lot toward setting up another British Day Centre, bringing companionship and warmth to the lonely.

£5 provides 25 good nourishing meals for old people near starvation overseas.

£150 perpetuates a loved name on the dedication plaque of a Day Centre and helps many old people.

Please use the FREEPOST facility and address your gift to:

The Hon. Treasurer, The Rt. Hon. Lord Maybray-King, Help the Aged, Room T6, FREEPOST 30, London W1E 7JZ (no stamp needed).

Please let us know if you would like your gift used for a particular purpose.

husbands to the nearest Metro departure point and drop them off with a quick embrace before returning home.

The opening of the new line will mark the completion of exactly a third of the full underground network of 100 miles of track which will eventually cover most of the inner suburban area. As each section is opened, buses are rerouted to the new stations to avoid duplication of passenger service.

Since the first line was opened some three-and-a-half years ago, over the opposition of various groups who argued that the system would be an extravagant white elephant, it has been highly successful in attracting passengers. The petrol shortages this summer, which sharply increased the use of public transport, persuaded the last of the sceptics that in Metro the city has the beginning of a highly valuable asset.

The event, which will be celebrated by a day of free rides and other promotional hoopla, has been eagerly awaited by local businesses and shops who expect to benefit financially from the new attraction. A neighbour, who owns a small cafe within a few steps of one of the new stations, has been licking his lips with expectation for months. Home owners, too, have seen the value of their property rise in leaps and bounds.

Indeed, the only people who have any objections at all are those who live very close to the station at the end of the new line and are worried about an influx of buses and cars.

I am in the fortunate position of living far enough away from the station to avoid traffic snarls—but close enough to reach it quickly by car. My wife has already been coaxed as what Washingtonians quaintly call "a kiss and run" driver—wives who ferry their

children to the nearest Metro departure point and drop them off with a quick embrace before returning home.

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Geoffrey Smith

Why the Labour Party is close to a split

It is now a week since Mr Roy Jenkins delivered his Dimbleby Lecture. Do the reactions suggest that a split could occur by this time next year?

There are some others whose attitude is more emphatic and who look forward to a break with a mixture of hope and expectation. Others again side such a prospect with the greatest reluctance, but fear that it might ultimately come to that.

There is an element of calculation in some of these predictions. A number of right-wingers believe that their chances of winning the battle within the party would be greater if it was thought that they might leave the left, it is reasoned, would know that they could not win an election on their own—though there was not much sign of compromise from the left on Wednesday when the NEC refused to add another MP to the party's committee of enquiry.

But those who look for a strengthening of the radical centre are generally thinking of some kind of partnership between the Liberals and Labour's right wing. This period of upsurge, said if electronics occurs, in the right places, they could fairly soon have more MPs than it any time in the post-war years.

But those who look for a split on the right are varying opinions of what might best be countered. There is in general greater pessimism on that wing of the party than ever before.

There is no great confidence that the left can be defeated whatever the circumstances employed.

This does not mean that a split is almost inevitable. The left might not triumph, despite the pessimists. Even if it does, there could just as easily be a slow haemorrhage from the right, as one by one its members drift out of politics.

Practical politicians who intend to remain in politics will always be very reluctant to break away from their party. Few of them will be induced to do so by any intellectual analysis, no, rather, how distinguished. They would need to be propelled out by the pressure of events and to feel that they had a reasonable chance of making it elsewhere.

If the Liberals were winning a few by-elections that would raise hopes of electoral survival outside the Labour Party. If money were seen to be freely available that would lay at rest another anxiety for potential schismatics. One may guess that a social democratic party would not prove much of a problem, but it is curious that in the course of the Lib-Lab pact the Liberals did not press at all for the public financing of political parties—the most effective single step they could have taken to facilitate the realignment they were seeking.

But the decisive factor will be whether any apparent triumph for the left is accompanied by a big bang. Perhaps this might come if the left wins on the constitutional question at next year's party conference. Perhaps it might come if the left uses any new system for choosing the party leader to elect a successor to Mr Callaghan who is unacceptable to the parliamentary party. Perhaps it might come on some unforeseen issue after the right had suffered an accumulation of defeats on more important questions, especially if a favourable issue had been rejected for reselection by the constituency parties.

But there will be a significant split in the Labour Party only if there is an explosion that blows aside the bonds of sentiment and habit, and drives out the hope that the right might recover control of the party from inside.

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HO WILL TAKE IT ON?

British Steel Corporation is in a bind. The evident difficulty in finding a successor to chairman, Sir Charles Ash, is proof enough of the fact that few outsiders of quality experience are willing to take on the job. Unlike British and, where, Sir Michael Ash has had substantial success in working up a management team with low morale and gets into a group which is facing a daunting future with cynicism and realism, the British Steel Corporation continues to give an impression of being carried downwards by a tide of events.

The spring of 1978 the BSC itself the target of getting points of break-even by the end of 1980. Its chairman yesterday formally abandoned that hope that the objective could be realized as soon as possible. In reality there has been no chance that the BSC's losses would be on an even basis by the target date for many months. Over the past five years more the BSC's public forecasts have consistently underrated the deterioration of commercial and financial position.

The point has now been reached where major surgery is inevitable. It has already been planned for too long. It is possible to overestimate the culprits involved. The difficulties of carrying through the intended processes with the support of the trade unions are immense. Successive govern-

ments have made the task more difficult by imposing political constraints on the BSC's commercial judgment. The so-called Beswick review under the last government, which reprieved uneconomical plants for a period, is indicative of the way in which political pressures have postponed and made more difficult the eventual day of hard decision. Even where there has been major recent investment, the productivity of British Steel is falling by international standards.

No doubt the BSC will be encouraged to ease its problems by selling at least peripheral activities. In the short term this would make a contribution to reducing its losses and would similarly reduce its call on central government financing.

At the margin this would be a welcome contribution. By itself, however, it does nothing to solve the underlying problem, which can only be tackled directly.

To that extent indeed such sales may even

make the medium term profit position of the corporation as a whole even worse. In any case, such sales do nothing to deal with the great core of the BSC's steel making activity.

The new manifestation of crisis at the BSC is a significant test of the Government's resolve over industrial policy. When Sir Keith Joseph, as the sponsoring minister, reviewed the corporation's

position in the summer, he stated firmly that any further deterioration in the BSC's position would have to be countered by prompt remedial action. He said then that there would be no easing of the industry's cash limit to cope with such a situation and that the BSC would not be allowed to divert funds earmarked for capital investment to meet running losses. In short, once again the BSC is being required to come to terms with commercial reality. It is now having to do so against a background of falling demand for steel and forecasts of rising losses even on present trends.

Little indication has been given of the way in which the BSC intends to tackle this mammoth task. There is little prospect that it can be achieved by just trying to do better within existing overall plans. To take a leaf out of the British Leyland book, the Government's policy ought to be to find a new chairman from outside to replace Sir Charles Villiers when he retires next year who will adopt a commercially credible strategy. It seems certain, given the internal history of the BSC, that this will only be done effectively by someone coming from outside. They should then back to the hilt his effort to make such a commercial plan work. The long saga of the BSC's relations with Whitehall does not make an encouraging precedent. But the moment of crisis for BSC has now clearly come and nothing short of a radically new approach stands any chance of getting BSC under control.

IE STRUCTURE OF SOCIAL BENEFITS

Supplementary Benefits Commission is an official body that has won much respect for independent, constructive work it has offered to successive Secretaries of State and, in its contributions it has made to the public dialogue. In this its annual reports have been models of their kind. The Government's intention to wind up the Commission is therefore to cause some misgivings. The reason for the decision is under the terms of the Social Security Bill, published today, the rules governing benefit are in future to be specified more precisely and are to be public in regulations made, in course under the Act. That change in procedure is wholly desirable. The uncertainty created by applied rules, which sometimes give discretion to the individual and sometimes do not, has one of the principal weaknesses of the scheme. It is much better that claimants should, as far as possible, exactly know their entitlements are, and what rules discretion will have to be exercised. It is correct that the Secretary of State should take responsibility for the regulations and should be answerable to Parliament and public for them. It automatically removes the Commission's principle from the

task of running the supplementary benefit scheme. It has not only laid down the regulations, but supervised the activities of the local officials.

Should it have been kept in being to perform this supervisory function, which would have meant that it would also be available to continue to offer advice? That depends partly on how much detailed discretion will remain to local officials under the new dispensation. This will not be known until the regulations are published. Until then it is possible to give only an interim judgment. In principle it is desirable to make as many payments as possible, a matter of entitlement, rather than discretion: claimants then know where they are and there is less danger of unjust variations in the way that discretion is exercised between one region and another, or indeed between offices in the same region. But unless more money is available — which under present circumstances it is quite reasonably not — it is hard to limit discretion without removing the ability to respond to individual needs which are met under existing arrangements. Only when the regulations are public will it be clear whether the new pattern, which in principle has much to be said for it, will provide a fairer and more sensitive means of relieving distress.

How effectively that is done will presumably depend in the first instance on the new body that will take over the Commission's advisory role: the Social Security Advisory Committee. This will have the advantage of dealing not only with supplementary benefits but with national insurance, child benefit and the family income supplement schemes as well. That is a logical development because all these schemes interrelate with each other in their social effects. For any body to be giving official advice about only one of them is therefore liable to have distorting effects — all the more so, indeed, if the advice is cogent and influential. But there is also an advantage in an advisory body being closely in touch with the detailed operation of the schemes in question. One of the reasons why the Commission's advice has been so valuable is that it has had the practical

ARSH PUNISHMENT FOR THE TRUTH

Iran's record in the control of the press has been tolerable and over the last three decades has been. The treatment of journalists often been far below the standard one might have expected from the quality of the country's civil and military class. Over the last year or so, unfortunately, General Zia's military rule has shown itself to be no better in this respect than any other military dictators. He is evidently unwilling to complete a real democracy or to give the kind of press without which democracy can flourish: sentence yesterday, in fact responsible international test, of one year's hard tour on Mr Salamat Ali, the respondent in Pakistan of the *Far Eastern Economic Review*, shows once again how General Zia has ignored the good government

nowhere obtruded his opinion, even in the view that the province faced a probable political upheaval. Every ruler of Pakistan has known that Baluchistan is a divided and discontented frontier province. In the past two years revolution in Iran and Afghanistan has inflamed its unquenchable zeal of greater autonomy within Pakistan or for some alternative political grouping among the Baluchis.

Can Mr Salamat Ali's article be charged with stirring up such sentiment? Not in the least. It is balanced: an appraisal at one could ask for an admiringly tense condition. No such appraisal could omit the varied solutions that Baluch feeling is the result of the Punjabi domination of Northern Ireland because "there would be an insufficient range of functions for the devolved government to exercise". That is a remarkable statement: this "insufficient range of functions" is, apart from

bridge liberals; for growth has been our measure of an idealized world, a world we have set apart from ourselves in order to master it.

Have you not asked yourself whether, just possibly, it might be the consuming contradiction in the way of life we have created by such idealistic thought that are still forcing some new paradigm upon us?

Indeed, could it be such contradictions, evidenced, say, by alienation and joblessness, that underlie the doubts about monetarism to which you have now allowed prominent expression? For if, after all, we are not apart from the world, but rather are indissolubly of it (which is the assumption of "green" politics), how limited must be what money can measure, and how it must itself diminish with over-use!

Yet, alongside, we learn of a new politics, now of proven potency, that defies the old political analysis in terms of the material interests of right and left. The values of this politics, as you now simply do not recognize growth as a criterion of success; in fact, if anything they hold it in suspicion. In so doing (whether they yet know it or not) they, in their turn, are bringing idealism into question more fundamentally than ever did the Cambridge

ayer Book language

Professor David Martin

May I make three points? First,

General Synod did not, as some

post, turn away the *Pentecost*. It

was presented by the Chairman of

House of Laity in his personal

capacity, and duly received without

much discussion.

Secondly, most of the signatories

are Anglicans and it has not been

sufficiently noticed that they

lived the majority of masters of

sin in our cathedrals. The fact

that non-Anglicans signed, often

expressions of passionate feel-

ings that affectionate care for

national church has not confined

those in immediate receipt of its

ministry.

Thirdly, supporting arguments

are advanced by a group of writers, most of whom were communists. These arguments are to be found in the *Pentecost* (Carcanet Press, £30, in Exchange, Manchester).

Yours sincerely,

DAVID MARTIN,

London School of Economics.

monetarism enough?

From Mr Maurice Ash

Do your own inner ironies

cape you? On your today's (Now

ember 22) centre pages, your leader "Mr. Robinson and Mr. Blunt" is juxtaposed with an account of the rise of "green" politics in Germany, which in turn is next to Ronald Burr asking, "Is monetarism going to be enough?"

The certitudes of the first decline into the doubts of the last, through immersion in a new dimension of politics.

You ascribe an atmosphere of

treason amongst liberals at Cam-

bridge to their rejection of idealism

and of absolute standards. You do

not say which of those ultimate

products of idealistic thought,

Stalin and Hitler, you yourself

would have favoured. We are left

to conclude that idealism today can

only be expressed to those tradi-

tional ways of whose rules,

wantonly breached by Keynes,

monetarism is the necessary

instrument.

Yet, alongside, we learn of a new

politics, now of proven potency,

that defies the old political analysis

in terms of the material interests

of right and left. The values of this

politics, as you now simply do

not recognize growth as a criterion

of success; in fact, if anything they

hold it in suspicion. In so doing

(whether they yet know it or not)

they, in their turn, are bringing

idealism into question more funda-

mentally than ever did the Camb-

bridge

liberals; for growth has been

our measure of an idealized world,

a world we have set apart from

ourselves in order to master it.

Have you not asked yourself

whether, just possibly, it might be

the consuming contradiction in the

way of life we have created by

such idealistic thought that are still

forcing some new paradigm upon us?

Indeed, could it be such

contradictions, evidenced, say, by

alienation and joblessness, that underlie

the doubts about monetarism to

which you have now allowed

prominent expression? For if, after

all, we are not apart from the

world, but rather are indissolubly

of it (which is the assumption of

"green" politics), how limited

must be what money can measure,

and how it must itself diminish

with over-use!

In so going for broke on monetarism

you are more than taking a great

risk. You are also, because it is

just so mechanistic, betraying the

traditions of your own broader

politics.

Haven't you grown a little rusty

in your long absence?

Yours faithfully,

MAURICE ASH,

Chairman,

The Green Alliance,

16 Stratton Ground, SW1.

November 22.

The future of British Leyland

From Sir Michael Edwards

Sir, In his letter published in your newspaper yesterday (November 28) Mr Geoffrey Robinson fails to mention two relevant points. First of all, that he is an interested party in that he was employed by BL for some five years and not only knows something of the company's problems, but had a first-hand involvement in many of them.

Secondly, arising from this experience, he told me two years ago that the job could not possibly be done within the time span of a three-year secondment. That we have not restored the company to health in the space of two years is no surprise to me and it should be no surprise to him. When Mr Robinson was involved in decision making at BL it was recognized that he centred the strike in March edition of their journal.

Because this caused a disciplinary warning his actions at that time will be fully exposed in the forthcoming inquiry by his union. Without the Langbridge strike, disputes were down by no less than 72 per cent, which does not support the contention that we have been unable to "win the unions and men over".

The fact that the workforce are sick and tired of mindless disputes is evidenced by the result of the ballot and by the flood of letters and telegrams from employees who have welcomed the dismissal. Furthermore, the product and facilities

ary and the engineering disputes this autumn have cost tens of millions of pounds and have hit market share, productivity and cash flow.

The only serious internal dispute was the Robinov-led wildcat strike in Langbridge in January, which was unconstitutional and illegal and highly damaging. This was recently denied by his own union—the AUEW who centred the strike in the March edition of their journal.

Because this caused a disciplinary warning his actions at that time will be fully exposed in the forthcoming inquiry by his union. Without the Langbridge strike, disputes were down by no less than 72 per cent, which does not support the contention that we have been unable to "win the unions and men over".



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE November 29: His Excellency Vice-Admiral Felix Jesus Mendoz-Acosta was received in audience by the Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and the Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Republic of Venezuela to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the Embassy, who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: General Dr. Pedro Diaz, Ambassador (Counsellor), Colonel Hector Guzman Mon (Military Attaché), Colonel Carlos Chacín (Air Attaché), Senior Dr. Eduardo Duques (Counsellor), Senior Licentiate Martín Pacheco (Press Attaché), Senior Ricardo Jiménez (Scientific Attaché), Señor Amancio Rojas de Escalante (Cultural Attaché), and Senior Dr. Ricardo Maldonado (Scientific Attaché).

Señora de Mendoz-Acosta had the honour of being received by the Queen.

Sir Edward Youde, Deputy Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty, attended, and the Gentleman of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Mr P. H. Lawrence was received in audience by the Queen and the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Ankara.

Mrs Lawrence had the honour of being received by the Queen.

The Princess of Wales, attended by Mr Oliver Everett, arrived at Swindon Railway Station this morning in the Royal Train to Greater Manchester.

His Royal Highness subsequently toured and opened the

Greater Manchester Fire Service Headquarters at Salford.

The Prince of Wales then visited Ferranti Electronics Ltd at Oldham and, having opened the Micro-Electronics Centre, was received by the Queen.

His Royal Highness this afternoon visited Burnley General Hospital and afterwards toured the premises of Burnley Engineering Products Ltd.

Historical Macmillan compliments for winners

By Philip Doward

Mr Harold Macmillan, OM, yesterday presented the Wolfson literary awards, our native equivalent of Nobel prizes for historical writing. Mr Macmillan, in sparkling and urbane form, said: "The Queen Royal Air Force Central Flying School, upon relinquishing his appointment as Commandant of the School, Air Commodore Dennis Allison also had the honour of being received by Her Majesty upon assuming his appointment as Commandant of the Royal Air Force Central Flying School.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Chancellor of the University of London, presided over the celebrations at the Senate House in honour of Foundation Day.

After the Foundation Day Dinner Her Majesty presided at a ceremony for the conferment of Honorary Degrees.

Mr David Phipps, Sir Martin Gillies, and Sir Edward Beaumont were in attendance.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was represented by Sir Ralph Anstruther, Bt, at the Funeral of the Dowager Countess of Scarborough which took place at Scarborough Chapel yesterday.

A prize of £3,000 was awarded to Quentin Skinner, professor of history at Cambridge, for his book *The Foundations of Modern Political Thought* (Cambridge).

Mr Macmillan said: "Professor Skinner brings us the truth that history is not a series of disconnected episodes



Lady Seamus, Professor Richard Cobb (centre) and Professor Quentin Skinner, the three winners of the Wolfson literary awards, at Claridge's hotel, London, yesterday.

like the cinema, but a continuous river of thought, theory and opinion."

A prize of £3,000 was awarded to Mary Soames for her life of her mother, *Clementine Churchill*.

(Cassell). Mr Macmillan said: "Lady Soames has carried out the supremely delicate and difficult task of writing the real story of her mother. I found it particularly moving because I had a very

deep affection for her father and mother. To have lived even on the periphery of these great events, in the company of great people, in great days, is something that can never be taken away from one."

Gerald H. E. Staples, Army Legal Counsel, one son of Mr and Mrs H. Staples of 6 Marlborough Buildings, Bath, and Paula, only daughter of the late Sir Gerald and Signora Francesco, of Fermo, Italy.

Mr H. L. Taylor and Miss P. E. Savage.

The engagement is announced between Hugh, son of the late Mr L. N. Taylor and Mrs Taylor, of Yaverland, Peaseake, Surrey, and Fiona, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. B. S. Savage, of 63 Font Street, London, SW1.

Mr C. Mackenzie Hill and Miss D. J. Birbeck.

The engagement is announced between Charles Mackenzie Hill, of 108 Newgate, Oxfordshire, and Deborah, daughter of Mr and Mrs L. L. Birbeck, of Bushy Heath, Hertfordshire.

Mr P. M. Benjamin and Miss J. E. Levy.

The engagement is announced between Michael Paul, son of Mr and Mrs J. M. Paul, of 108 Newgate, London, and Joanne, daughter of Brigadier and Mrs N. H. Birbeck, of Wels Lodge, Eynsham, Oxfordshire.

Mr K. G. Rodwell and Mrs C. Miller.

The engagement is announced between Keith Guy, son of Mr and Mrs K. S. Rodwell of Quandndon, Derbyshire, and Christine, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs J. W. Miller of Moreton, Wirral.

Mr C. E. A. Felling and Miss J. H. Fidman.

The marriage will take place on December 8 in Hamm, West Germany, between Christian, son of Mr and Mrs Otto E. Felling, of Minehead, Somerset, and Susanne, daughter of Herr and Frau Rudolf Tulemann, of Hamm.

Captain G. H. Styles and Signorina P. G. Francis.

The engagement is announced between Gavin, son of Mr and Mrs J. H. Styles, of 5 Marlborough Buildings, St Albans, and Jennifer, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. M. Robins, of Westfield, St Albans.

Mr D. P. Keefer and Miss A. Proctor.

The engagement is announced between Paul, eldest son of Mr and Mrs D. Keefer of Grimsby, Lincolnshire, and Janice, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Proctor, of Folwood, Preston.

Mr H. L. Taylor and Miss P. E. Savage.

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Mr J. R. Townsend and Miss M. M. Mackay.

The engagement is announced between James, elder son of Mr and Mrs H. R. Townsend, of Brook Hill, Brandish, of Brook Hill, Brandish, and Olivia, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs F. G. Matthey, of Snowhill House, Eynsham, Oxfordshire.

Mr G. Hall and Miss J. Robins.

The engagement is announced between G. Hall and Miss J. Robins.

A reception was given in the hall of Magdalene College, Cambridge, on Saturday, November 24, when the Rev. K. Scott officiated.

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OBITUARY

LORD COLE

Former chairman of Unilever

Lord Cole, G.B.E., former chairman of Unilever Limited, who died yesterday at the age of 73, was born in Singapore, of British parents, and educated at Raffles Institution, Singapore, and Herne Bay College, Kent.

He joined what is now Unilever in 1923 as a junior clerk in the Niger Company and made his first visit to West Africa in 1926. It was an area he came to know intimately, and for whose peoples he had admiration, understanding and affection. After the formation of the United Africa Company he took charge of provisions buying and later, transport. At the outbreak of war in 1939 he was in Nigeria but returned to London to be responsible for the management of all the United Africa Company's businesses in British West Africa Territories.

In 1941 he was seconded to the staff of Lord Swinton, then British resident minister in West Africa, and as commercial member was responsible *inter alia* for the handling of materials through West Africa destined for the North Africa campaign.

He was appointed to the board of the United Africa Company in 1945 and was joint managing director from 1952-55, and chairman of Palm Oil Limited for the same period. In 1948, he was elected to the boards of Unilever Limited and Unilever N.V.

In 1955, with characteristic reluctance, the African trader—as he liked to be described—moved on to spend some time getting to know the wider world of Unilever. The following May he was appointed vice-chairman of Unilever Limited, in succession to Sir Herbert Davies, and became chairman in 1960.

George Cole was a kindly man, totally lacking in pomposity. One suspects that to the end he remained inwardly sure of his worth.

SIR JOHN HEWITT

Sir John Hewitt, KCVO, CBE, who died on November 19 at the age of 69, was a self-effacing man, who yet exercised widespread influence on contemporary society by his advice during 12 years (1961-73) as Appointments Secretary to a series of Prime Ministers.

He entered the Stock Exchange in 1928 and always acknowledged his debt to the City. In 1941 he joined the civil service and held wartime positions of industrial responsibility in the Midlands.

He left deeply about social issues, not in terms of abstractions, but of human lives. He and his wife, Betty, were passionately concerned about people. They had a particular interest, shared by their daughter, in the Crypt at Spiralfields.

Hewitt was regarded with affection by a wide variety of people, including The Prince of Wales for whom he performed valuable service through the Chevening Trust.

He was appointed CBE in 1964 and created KCVO in 1971. His widow, son and daughter survive him.

GROUP CAPTAIN MUNGO BUXTON

Group Captain Mungo Buxton, OBE, FRAeS, died on November 18 at the age of 73.

Born in 1906, Geoffrey Mungo Buxton spent his childhood and youth in the shadow of the First World War and like many of his generation was destined to a life of service to his country. As a pilot he was commissioned in 1922 and served in the Royal Air Force and in 1931 as a serving officer, he went up to Pembroke College, Cambridge, to read Engineering. He gained first class honours in the Mechanical Sciences, Tripos going on to an appointment in the Royal Navy.

He believed that sound research in science and mathematics was close to saturating the capabilities of the human ear. But the present television image far exceeds the capabilities of the eye. No display technology can yet do justice to the large quantities of information which will be needed for a communications network.

It is becoming increasingly clear that optical fibre will be the most effective way of carrying information between cities and continents.

But optical fibre investment in developing a fibre communications network at least as expensive as the present telephone network would be very large. What could bring pressure to bear for a more rapid development of optical fibre?

It is widely accepted that optical fibre will be the most effective way of carrying information between cities and continents.

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FOREIGN REPORT

Mass arrests and torture end but democracy is a long way off

Mellower Chilean military regime feels it can afford to ease repression

Six years after it took power from President Allende, Chile's military Government is looking mellower and more established.

The days of mass arrests and torture seem to be over, the economic statistics are much improved and the regime is clearly like to be accepted internationally as respectable, after years as a pariah.

But the apparatus of repression remains largely in place, as does President Pinochet himself the man who bears the main responsibility for the excesses of the last few years.

In fact, it appears that, so far as he is allowing any relaxation it is because he has succeeded in strengthening his own position and feels that he can afford to ease up a little.

He certainly has no intention of giving up power in the near future, partly because he enjoys it, and partly because he runs the risk of being called to account by any successor regime.

So although there is talk of a new constitution, political parties remain banned and President Pinochet's advisers make it clear that it will be the second half of the 1980s before there is any return to democracy.

When I met five or six Christian Democrats in a private room in Santiago recently they told me that the meeting was illegal and that I should not be hauled off to jail if the authorities decided to swoop. They did not expect it to happen, but the threat was always there.

Meanwhile, operations against suspected "subversives" continue. Church sources say that people are regularly detained and questioned in secret prisons and often tortured.

There was a case last August in which one of them, Senator Pedro Alvarez Sanchez, a teacher, was tortured to death in the course of five days' detention by the National Information Centre (CNI) the main security service.

Nor is there any readiness on the part of the authorities to accept any responsibility for the atrocities of the past. Over the last two mass graves have been found, almost certainly of victims of the period soon after the military takeover, but attempts to have a thorough inquiry have run into a wall.

Besides, as officials point out, even if those responsible for the killings were identified, they would be covered by the amnesty declared last year.

There is the same difficulty over getting information about hundreds of other people who simply disappeared during the height of the repression. There have been no disappearances of that sort recently, but the Church is trying, vainly so far, to find out about some 650 cases for which it has documentation.

When the armed forces overthrew the Allende regime, they did not just set up an authoritarian regime. They repudiated a government of the far left by one of the far right. They did not expect it to happen, but the threat was always there.

Democrat, who at one time had been the largest party in Chile, and who has been fiercely opposed to President Allende's United Popular, and they co-operate as the smaller groups on the right of the political spectrum.

There is the idea that these new advisers might be to work as economic "advisers" derived from Professor Milton Friedman of Chicago, the man who has been far behind.

This year, the Government has introduced new labour legislation which provides for the election of union leaders and even allows strikes under certain clearly defined conditions.

There have been a few strikes, but union leaders complain that the new law tilts the balance in the favour of the employers, and that they are often not worthwhile.

The main opposition to the Government, both on the human rights issue and on its economic policies, comes from the Church, as it has since the early days of the military regime.

Not all the Chilean bishops agree with this, but Cardinal Raúl Silva Henríquez has taken a strong stand, and went to the lengths of giving a long interview to the magazine *Hoy* last October on the differences between the Church and the Government.

He repeated the Church's view that Chile should return to "institutional normality", and that the Church should distance itself from the traditional dependence on copper.

On the other hand they have allowed unemployment to reach new heights—now some 10 per cent for the country as a whole and 12 per cent for the Santiago area according to government statistics.

The address was to have con-

cluded: "very much higher according to the opposition".

Their policies have been well-known by Chileans since the upper income levels have gained from the annual growth of 10 per cent.

There is the idea that these new advisers might be to work as economic "advisers" derived from Professor Milton Friedman of Chicago, the man who has been far behind.

This year, the Government has introduced new labour legislation which provides for the election of union leaders and even allows strikes under certain clearly defined conditions.

There have been a few strikes, but union leaders complain that the new law tilts the balance in the favour of the employers, and that they are often not worthwhile.

The main opposition to the Government, both on the human rights issue and on its economic policies, comes from the Church, as it has since the early days of the military regime.

Not all the Chilean bishops agree with this, but Cardinal Raúl Silva Henríquez has taken a strong stand, and went to the lengths of giving a long interview to the magazine *Hoy* last October on the differences between the Church and the Government.

He repeated the Church's view that Chile should return to "institutional normality", and that the Church should distance itself from the traditional dependence on copper.

On the other hand they have allowed unemployment to reach new heights—now some 10 per cent for the country as a whole and 12 per cent for the Santiago area according to government statistics.

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Peter Strafford

Indian attitudes anger Asean

Delhi seen as Trojan Horse of region

Relations between India and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean) became further strained last week when Delhi abstained from an Asean sponsored call in the United Nations General Assembly for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Kampuchea and for an international conference on the occupied land.

The Asean countries—Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines—led the move to condemn the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea in January this year, which led to the overthrow of the Pol Pot administration and the setting up of Mr Heng Samrin in Phnom Penh.

India, on the other hand, has been lobbying within Asean to reverse that position, without success. And one casualty of that attempt is the delay in establishing a dialogue with Asean along the lines the regional grouping has with the European Economic Community, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand.

The Asean nations have described India bitterly as "the stalking horse for the Vietnamese" and say that all of India's actions this year have been to get Asean to withdraw its strong opposition to Hanoi's military invasion of Kampuchea.

Asian diplomats also feel that the Indian position is coloured by its close ties with the Soviet Union—with which it has a treaty of friendship—and its desire to counter the growing influence of China in South-East Asia.

But the coolness between India and Asean goes back a long way. Malaysia's first prime minister and founding father, Tunku Abdul Rahman, in an interview when he was Secretary-General of the Islamic Secretariat, said India intended to treat South-East Asian nations as being within its sphere of influence. "It bothers like hell to be here and not be resented", he said.

Officials in Malaysia point to several instances when India did not come up with the expected quid pro quo. "Malaysia's total support for India when it was invaded by China in 1961 did not bring us Indian support in our confrontation with Indonesia in 1963," said one Foreign Ministry official.

The Indian answer is that its support for Malaysia during confrontation could only have been the result of its own strength, as was, as well as Indonesia, one of the pillars of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Indian officials say their role behind the scenes did go a long way in bringing the conflict to a settlement, which may not have been possible if it had openly supported Malaysia.

Asian diplomats say that India generally ignored Asean as a grouping since its formation.

in 1967, and began to look at it in a new light only when China did so.

They say that India did not give much chance of Asean success in the early years and tried to come to terms only after the European Economic Community, Japan, Australia and New Zealand established their formal links with the grouping.

The Indian argument to this is to deny categorically any such attitude, saying that since bilateral ties between Delhi and the five nations were excellent, India "looked upon with favour their moves to establish a regional grouping".

But Asian countries have been unhappy at its reluctance to commit itself openly to Asean's future.

The present state of ties between India and Asean came about specifically over whether the Vietnamese-backed administration of Mr Heng Samrin ought to be recognized.

The differing positions were accepted in Asean capitals as a fact of life, but what angered the leaders in the five nations was what one foreign minister called "blatant arm-twisting" by India to make Asean change its collective mind in favour of Mr Heng Samrin.

India's decision to send a "private" visit by India's Foreign Secretary, Mr T. N. Kaul, in the opposite direction of Sri Lanka, Vietnam and Asean countries, in the course of which Mr Kaul made remarks at a press conference in Singapore that Mr Pham Van Dong, the Vietnamese Prime Minister, wanted close ties with Asean.

Indian officials deny there was a concerted attempt to get Asean to change its mind and there was no correlation between the trips of Mr Kaul and Mr Singh.

It is given that Mr Singh left Delhi on his mission when a Vietnamese official, Mrs Nguyen Thi Binh, was there to plead for the recognition of Mr Heng Samrin, there is a feeling that both the trips were coordinated.

The last straw—so one Asean minister put it—came when Mr Atul Bihari Vajpeyi, then the Indian Foreign Minister, tried to lobby for Mr Heng Samrin during preparatory meetings in Colombo last July.

Mr Vajpeyi dropped his lobbying only when opposition developed, but the attempt to launch a counter-attack against the man who had "wronged" him.

In the next general election in 1976, with Mr Kaul in the Prime Minister's seat, the party performance was no less miserable than in the recent one. The LDP's strength dropped from 271 to 249 in the 451-man chamber. (This has since expanded to 511 members.) It was largely because of this loss of parliamentary strength that Mr Kaul, besieged by hostile and relentless partisan elements, had to resign in favour of the former Finance Minister, Mr Takeo Fukuda.

At this point Mr Kaul and Mr Fukuda suddenly found themselves sharing a common enemy: Mr Tanaka, who with his ally, Mr Ohira, was the source of all political evils.

The new anti-Tanaka-Ohira axis was joined by Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, a former party secretary-general and a faction leader, who had ambitions of becoming party president.

And these doubts will remain until India proves to the satisfaction of the Asean countries that its efforts on behalf of Mr Heng Samrin—whom it does not recognize, but probably will after the general elections in January—was done on its own initiative, and not at the request of either Hanoi or Moscow or both. It is going to be a difficult task.

M. G. G. Pillai

Money and personality before policies

The feuding that goes with stable Japanese government

Conservative Japanese politics has always been an enigma to most foreign observers. To their eyes, it has never been rational, has never evolved around statesmanship or policies, much less around the so-called national interest. If not totally ignored, these take second place to more practical elements: money and the personalities of the faction leaders.

This has seldom been more flagrantly obvious than in the recent election that struck the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), when it failed to secure a working majority in the October general election.

The contest for the premiership between Mr Masayoshi Ohira, the incumbent Prime Minister, and his predecessor, Mr Takeo Fukuda, a month after the election, bore witness to the ugly intra-party power struggle. It was marked by a series of covert dealings both within and between the party factions.

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M. G. G. Pillai

Mr Ohira: he won contest that left a bitter legacy

Mr Fukuda: extrovert who suffered the unexpected

Mr Tanaka: on trial, he hopes to vindicate himself

Mr Miki: compromise choice of the party elders

Mr Fukuda, an extrovert, is neither get on well together, and neither of them trust Mr Nakasone who is known as a political opportunist, constantly shifting from one power base to another. Mr Tanaka and Mr Nakasone have always been in the same constituency where Mr Fukuda has always won far more votes than Mr Nakasone, who cannot be expected to enjoy his rival's popularity.

In policy, Mr Miki is more or less a moderate middle-of-the-road, while the two others are hawkish.

A question that may be raised is how the Japanese Government thus directed, operates as one of the most competent and stable administrations in the world. The answer is simple. It is because the Government is run not by politically appointed ministers but by a tightly-knit and efficient bureaucracy led by career, administrative vice-ministers who direct the operations. The ministers change, but not the bureaucratic structure. There is little that the ministers can do to change the basic purpose of running the country.

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M. G. G. Pillai

Koji Nakamura

Non-resident trustees liable for additional rate of tax

Inland Revenue Commissioners v. Regent Trust Co. Ltd
Before Mr Justice Slade
[Judgment delivered November 25]

A non-resident trustee company is chargeable to income tax at section 16 (1) of the Finance Act, 1973, on "distributions" it receives from United Kingdom companies not within section 16 (1) of the Finance Act, 1973, on "distributions" it receives from United Kingdom companies not within section 16 (1) of the Finance Act, 1973, on "distributions" it receives from United Kingdom companies not within section 16 (1) of the Finance Act,

SPORT

Football

Brady leaves Arsenal at end of season to play on Continent

By Norman Fox

Football Correspondent

Liam Brady, the Arsenal and Republic of Ireland player, yesterday confirmed that he would be going abroad to play at the end of the season. The loss to his club and the Football League will be a blow for him as he has an unbroken record.

Many times this quiet, determined young man has suggested that the challenge of Continental football was tempting and now he has officially notified Arsenal and a legion of admirers that this will be his last season at Highbury. His Arsenal then sold him to another British club they could expect bids to open at about £2m but under new European regulations they will receive much less than that.

Once Brady's contract has expired he will be free to negotiate with a foreign club, probably Germany, and the European football (Uefa) regulations now impose a maximum transfer fee of £575,000, which is a matter of concern for many British clubs with players approaching the ends of their contracts.

The player himself has never believed that the British transfer fees should have risen much beyond the Uefa imposed figure, but his club will be uneasy about following him, persuaded him to stay. Brady could not be more unlike George Best in character, but is sometimes compared with him, said that his concern was to stop people accusing him of leaving Britain for money alone.

Last night in a level-headed statement, this 23-year-old said: "We first gave a try to Arsenal 10 years ago and joined them at 15. said: "As I play with dignity for a distinguished club I am not prepared to say anything to the detriment of the club, its management or my playing career."

He added: "For the last two years people may be disappointed. My reasons for leaving Arsenal at the end of my contract are because I wish to play on the Continent, which I believe will involve me less money. Robert Ball, the manager, and I from all quarters are accused of being greedy and money grubbing."

"The football public should be aware of my position. Firstly I

Yorath ban spurs Burkinshaw campaign

Manager, players and referees must get together to establish a common understanding on the vexed issue of discipline. Keith Burkinshaw, manager of Torremolinos Hotspur, again made this appeal after Terry Yorath, his Welsh midfield player, was banned yesterday for three games.

Yorath is the most unfortunate player I've come across," said Burkinshaw. "I can remember his committing a foul on any of the occasions he was booked. He has picked up a three-match ban from innocuous incidents."

The FA commission can only go on what the referee says, and referee's stand to make this much blander than they were to themselves justice." Yorath, a £200,000 signing from Coventry City in August, has had a bad disciplinary record. He hoped that the commission would treat him leniently when he made a personal appearance.

Instead they banned him from tomorrow's game at home to the League leaders, Manchester United, and from games at Bristol City and at home to Aston Villa.

"It doesn't make any easier for us," Mr. Burkinshaw said.

"But other teams will be faced with it before long because there are so many people being booked."

"We must all get together. The game is not any dirtier. We have to try to get some common understanding between managers, players and referees."

Kevin Keegan, of Hull City, also picked up a three-match ban from reaching 20 disciplinary points.

The Cambridge United manager

John Docherty's viral last

last season, Peter Shilton, a

Leicester referee, who was

three years old, is not com-

monly good offers—he had the same

offers as Stapleton and O'Leary

had and they are not much worse

than in Brady, whatever he

may think."

Hamburg are known to be

interested in ensuring that they

have a replacement for Keegan

at the end of my contract are

because I wish to play on the

Continent, which I believe will

involve me less money. Robert

Ball, the manager, and I from all

quarters are accused of being

greedy and money grubbing."

"The football public should be

aware of my position. Firstly I



Liam Brady: Continental game could make him a better player.

Sponsorship is outlined for Scottish league

General approval was given this week for firms to sponsor full Saturday programmes of the Scottish premier league for around £10,000.

The money would be

divided among the 10 clubs.

All 10 clubs met with the blessing of the Scottish League, and if the scheme is passed, it will be the first in a senior league to have been sponsored.

The major obstacle could be

the Scottish first and second division clubs fearing they were being left out in the cold.

Twickenham appeal

The collection made by the Rugby Union to help the match between England and New Zealand at Twickenham last Saturday for the Kämpfungs appeal fund raised £3,032. The New Zealand charity trust, for £1,258, a cheque for £4,600 has been sent to the British Red Cross Society who are organizing the appeal.

Mr Eppel said he is in no doubt

that the vast majority of local

residents are fully behind the

scheme: "The future of Millwall

Football Club is now in the hands

of the planning authorities.

Planning will now be included

behind one of the goals in a £10m

redevelopment scheme."

Plans for the fully-covered

stadium holding 25,000 people,

will be submitted to the London

Planning Committee, and it is hoped

that work will begin soon.

The major obstacle could be

the Scottish first and second division

clubs fearing they were being left

out in the cold.

Briggs' chance to become official champion

Gowain Briggs (Norfolk) is the

top seed for the British champion-

ships sponsored by Thorntons,

which start today at Abbeyfield,

Sheffield.

Briggs gets the leading spot

because Jonah Barrington,

Britain's leading player for the

past 15 years, has decided not to

compete. Barrington (38) wants to

try to improve his world ranking

by playing in an event in Singapore.

Briggs only turned professional

last February, but is already

regarded as the natural successor

to Barrington. He will be pressed

hard by Philip Keryon (Lancashire), the second seed, another newcomer to the professional

rank.

The winner will be the first

official British champion for it

will be the first time the country's

best amateurs and professionals

have been able to compete

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Squash rackets

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together.

Sudden death of Torsam Khan

Torsam Khan, the Pakistani

squash rackets professional and

Real Tennis Players' Association, died

in Adelaide on Wednesday at the

age of 23, writes Rex Bellamy, Tor-

sam collapsed after playing a

match with Neven Barbour (New Zealand).

He was given heart

massage, and mouth to mouth

resuscitation by two doctors and

a nurse who had been watching

the match, but Torsam died in

hospital. He leaves a wife,

son and daughter.

The son of Roshan, former

British and United States open

champion, brought up

Karachi, and became Pakistan's

under-16 champion. He went to

the 1974 Commonwealth Games

and showed a greater

ability to play than his

brother, who was a

good player.

Five and a half hour games proves too much for Lovell

By Ray McElroy

Real Tennis Correspondent

Christopher Lovell, the

Welshman, who

had been playing in the

open tournament at Queen's

Club tomorrow. Yesterday

he had been playing in the

open tournament at Queen's

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hand of ectation heavy for isins

much heartsearching in skating fraternity as of Robin Cousins's fall from grace. Literally as metaphorically, at on Wednesday night, it seems, drawn the scene of the year gold, they have always at a victory at Lake February was by no foregone conclusion. If he with three world pairs or more in the field, nothing of other gifted red around the world, they could not have what happened in the t of the British championships Cousin failed.

clean triple jump, only two and otherwise die out of sorts. Motion remains that the best free skaters world today and those as are prominent in die.

One is that he was much pressure on the the well-wishers packed him off to a heavy hand on him, and unable to withdraw. That is that he has been under much pressure by the broadcasting authorities, this country but also with the training and Americans and Britons a variety of other coun-

ther over here at Richardson's, told me on "more or less before any need for account average they received requests a day, not all connected with skating, but probably in Cousin's case, it might be anxious to know if all three places have been taken.

The women's position is clear.

Karen Richardson was a clear winner of the title and is certain to go to all three events. But she will have to be very good to be chosen for the European, Olympic and World championships will be announced today in the men's event our candidate is three and Christopher Howarth and Andrew Bewick, who were second and third respectively in Cousin's case, will be anxious to know if all three places have been taken.

This brings to mind a story lingering from the dead days of the *News Chronicle*. Their boxing correspondent, Gerald Walter, was at the ringside on one occasion and witnessed with the referee's decision in favour of boxer A. But, one of Walter's colleagues pleaded, that he had just spoken to boxer B and he had agreed that he had been beaten. Walter adjusted his mouthpiece and replied magnificently: "And, pray, what do you know about it?"

nard and Hagler the talking war

egas, Nov. 29.—Two Super Fly Leotard n Hager, having set the Jiving, attempt to match his with actions when they meet tomorrow night.

an Olympic champion in 1976, takes on

Benito, of Puerto Rico,

World Boxing Council

weight-welter title and

useless. The American

York-based Italian, for

defended middleweight

against Leonard is the

only awaited contest as

money indicates; both

receive at least \$1m a

year outside the division.

two outstanding boxers,

one who is unbeaten in

to assess the outcome as

"I'm the best welter-

in the world today," he

don't see anybody in my

vision who can beat me

now," Benito, who has

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ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Nov 19. Dealings End, Dec 7. Contango Day, Dec 10. Settlement Day, Dec 17.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BELL'S SCOTCH WHISKY **BELL'S**

Gross Net Gross Net

1978/79				1979/80				1980/81										
Div	Yld	Div	Yld	Div	Yld	Div	Yld	Div	Yld	Div	Yld							
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Prices on this page are now supplied by Exchange Telegraph's Epic system and are the last prices available from London stock market dealers yesterday evening. Various indices produced by The Times, including the index of 150 industrial stocks, are being reformed and re-calculated.

Exchange Telegraph's Epic system and are the last prices available from London stock market dealers yesterday evening.

Various indices produced by The Times, including the index of 150 industrial stocks, are being prepared and measure-

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

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BRIEF

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"brain", page 23

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ncial Editor, page 23

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change controls, page 23

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ncial Editor, page 23

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use of a BSC closure
British Aerospace is
a campaign to recruit
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redit from their overseas
s—except for motor
s and textiles, which still
100 per cent cash de-

Carter rescue plan for Chrysler is rejected

From Frank Vogl
United States Economic
Correspondent

Washington, Nov 29

The Chrysler Corporation's
survival prospects became
bleaker today. The banking
committee of the Senate bluntly
rejected the Carter Administra-
tion's Chrysler rescue plan and
proposed a much tougher plan,
one that may prove to be
unworkable.

The committee voted 10 to
five to kill the plan that
envisioned granting \$1,500m
(about £750m) of Federal loan
guarantees to Chrysler as long
as the company obtained
\$1,500m of additional loans
from the private sector.

Today the committee accepted
that Chrysler employees accepted
a temporary wage freeze,
that Chrysler secure \$2,800m
(£125m) of private loans and
that Federal government loan
guarantees be limited to
\$1,250m.

It is questionable whether
Chrysler can obtain more than
\$1,500m from its bankers and
even more unlikely that it will
succeed in renegotiating new
wage contracts.

Both sides compromised and
will have to be struck on
Capitol Hill as the House bank-
ing committee has already
voted in favour of the Adminis-
tration's plan.

At Congress, near the point
where key decisions have to be
taken, it appears that broad
philosophical questions are
swiftly fading into the back-
ground.

It seems as if most members
of Congress consider Chrysler
simply too important and too
large (it is the nation's tenth
biggest manufacturer) to allow
it to sink solely because free
enterprise doctrine argues
against government assistance
to weak companies.

Much more important is the
question of whether Chrysler
can ever become profitable.
One senator said that he
believed "giving Chrysler cash
is simply pouring money down
the drain".

Tremendous lobbying is
taking place on Capitol Hill by
Michigan state and Detroit city
officials who fear that if
Chrysler closes it would mean
an increase in Detroit unem-
ployment of at least 80,000 or
4 per cent of the total work
force.

Delay on Esso project would cost £1m week

By John Hussey

Each week of delay in com-
pleting Esso Chemical's ethy-
lene cracker at Mossmorran,
Fife, will add about £1m to the
eventual cost, it was disclosed
by company officials yesterday.
Already planning delays have
added £25m to the cost, which
is now put at £300m.

An appeal against planning
permits has been disposed of, but
Esso Chemical has gone ahead
and awarded a contract for the
design of the 500,000 tonnes-a-
year plant to Lummus, the
American engineering company.
Lummus, chosen from a shortlist
of four American and one West
German companies, is now almost
certain to act as manager for
the construction of the plant.
British groups, including
potential contenders like
CJB and Matthew Hall, would
have to wait for the plant
building industry.

Esso believes that it has put
together a management team
which "won't be easily trapped
in the jungle". It hopes that
that before construction begins
a national agreement covering
wages and conditions for
workers on all large sites will
cause a storm within the oil
industry.

The industry's American
counter-part working in
America could, it is widely
thought, build an ethylene
plant in four-fifths of the time.

The Mossmorran plant,
which is likely to form only
one part of a major new
chemical complex, has not
received final approval from
the Esso shareholders. Site
advantages, in terms of availability
of feedstock and accessibility
to markets, and existing
investment makes approval
almost certain.

This is the title of Mr
Hudson's latest investigation
into the weight and moment of
the figures contained in the
tax acts and still in force. It
is a fascinating compendium of
information, though useful only
in that it casts a curious light
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upon the murkier recesses of
the Revenue's collective con-
sciousness.

What Mr Hudson has set out
to do—last time for only the
three principal taxes (income,
corporation, and capital gains),
but this time for all seven "un-

Iran moves to free assets held in London with legal action against US banks

By Ronald Pullen
Banking Correspondent

The Iranian central bank was
last night understood to have
started legal action against several
of the London branches of the
United States banks.

Writs have been served to
unblock assets held in London
which were frozen as a result of
President Carter's move a fort-
night ago to step up the
pressure on Iran to release the
Iranian hostages and to prevent the
Iranian withdrawing funds from
American banks.

International bankers have
come to question increasingly
the legality of the United States
decision to extend the freeze

on Iranian assets to the over-
seas branches of its banks.

Banking authorities in most
European financial centres have
made it clear that they regard
the question as one for the
courts to decide and it now
appears as though Bank Mark-
zai, the central bank, has set
the ball rolling for a series of
complicated legal actions.

Much of Iran's troubles with
international bankers have stem-
med from the blocking of a
half-yearly intervention loan on
a \$500m (about £250m) loan
organized by Chase Manhattan.

Bank Markzai has already
argued that the payment was
made in time and it was due to
the Carter freeze that the

money was not transferred to
London to meet the payment.

Meanwhile, there have been
reports from the United States
that European and Japanese
banks have been told that
unless they toe the strong
United States line over Iran,
they cannot expect to be included
in any share-out of frozen
Iranian deposits.

Chase Manhattan has also
asked for a meeting with the
Iranian government to discuss
what action they should take

Following Morgan Guaranty's
move on Tuesday to seize Iran's
25 per cent holding in Fried-

Krupp and its interests in
Deutsche Babcock, the West
German government has made
clear it regards it as a civil
matter and has no plans to
intervene.

The United States Treasury
also announced yesterday that it
had made a number of technical
modifications to the regulations
governing the freeze on

Spending cuts forced on British shipbuilders

By Peter Hill

British Shipbuilders is in
danger of exceeding Govern-
ment-set financial limits and
the loss-making state corpora-
tion has been forced to embark
on a tough economy drive.

Forecasts of expenditure in
the present financial year have
revealed that the corporation will
overspend unless it takes action
to get its cash requirements
under control.

In its first financial year
(1977-78) BS lost £65m. Last
year the loss was £95.5m, £4.5m
more than the limit set by the
Government. The loss limit has
been set at £100m for the financial
year to March 31 next after taking
into account subsidies from the £65m inter-
vention fund, which is designed to
bridge the gap between United
Kingdom shipbuilding costs and the
low prices prevalent in the
world market.

On average the cost of building
a ship in Britain is about
30 per cent more than the
price set by BS in the market.

The subsidy is limited to
23 per cent of contract price,
and the difference has to be
made up by greater efficiency.

The Government has set a
loss limit for 1980-81 of £90m

before intervention fund sub-
sidies. Also it has allocated a
reduced sum of £55m for sub-
sidies, and the corporation fears
that the European Commission
may seek to impose further re-
strictions beyond the end of next
year.

Mr Philip Hares, managing
director of finance at BS, said
yesterday: "If we are to use
our maximum £55m subsidy
we shall be allowed to make a trading
loss of only £35m which is
considerably less than the losses
made in earlier years. This
will be very difficult to
achieve."

Mr Hares gave a warning that
if the corporation failed to
live within the limits and to
secure fresh orders further cuts
in the industry's capacity would
be necessary, with a loss of
jobs.

Already BS has switched
about 7,000 workers from mer-
chant shipbuilding to naval
vards and offshore construction
and has set a target of 45
average ship orders over the
next two years.

Union leaders last month
submitted a claim to raise
minimum earnings from £90 in
£110 in a two-year period, coupled
with shorter working hours and
longer holidays. However, they
are fully aware that the tight
cash restraints will hamper the
corporation in the talks which
will be continued next month.



Mr William Miller, United States Treasury Secretary, at yesterday's press conference.

BNOC may sell to private outlets

By Nicholas Hirst

Talks which could lead to the
British National Oil Corporation
selling petrol and oil products to
independent oil companies are
under way with the Department
of Energy.

The outcome will depend on
how BNOC is to be reorganized.
After the Conservatives came
to power the Secretary of State
for Energy, Mr David Howell,
said the public were to be
allowed to invest in the exploration
side of BNOC, but that the
minister, who has

rights to more than 50 per cent
of all the oil produced in the
North Sea, would remain wholly
under state control. A state-
ment on how the split is to be
made is expected in the new
year, but the fact that the talks
are taking place is likely to
cause a storm within the oil
industry.

There are considerable attractions
to a Conservative government
in such a scheme. British
independents, who have to buy

most of their supplies on the
expensive "spot" markets, are
particularly hurt by shortages.
A guaranteed contract supply
from BNOC would be a financial
lifeline.

The BNOC management is set
against having the company
split up, but may still wish to
move downstream. BNOC
already sells fuel oil to the
electricity generating boards at
its current high level for part of
next year. But he added that it
had been carrying only
spot contracts for its oil—
below the market price. In
addition it has been producing
more oil this year to make up
for the shortage caused by the
disruption in Iran.

Nevertheless, BNOC has
considered extending these deals
and the obvious recipients
would be the independents.

Japanese to penalize oil speculators

Tokyo, Nov 29.—The Japanese
ministry were said yesterday
to be planning to penalize
domestic oil firms which buy oil
on the spot market to profit
from the Rotterdam market

level by making them sell it at
a loss. The ministry had warned
several Japanese companies not to
contract to buy spot oil at prices
above the official Japanese
guideline.

The government said last
week that Japanese companies
should buy at prices slightly be-
low the top spot market price.

but did not give an exact guide-
line. Officials said the ministry
had not yet taken disciplinary
action.

They confirmed that some
"high price import arrangements"
had been made by traders, but declined to disclose
whether it involved Iranian
crude, made surplus by the
cutting of exports from Iran
to the United States. They did
not say how much oil had been
purchased at the high prices.

—Reuters

Thousands of jobs may go as BSC loss tops £145m

Continued from page 1

The board is still striving to
keep afloat as an early date.
The Government will not
extend the corporation's cash
limits nor will it be prepared,
as it has already stated, to
fund accumulated revenue
losses beyond the end of next
March.

Remedial action is vital. The
corporation's strategy is aimed
at securing a return to profit-
ability, bringing capacity into
line with lower demand; and
improving efficiency and
reducing cost increases.

Some 15,000 jobs are to be
closed out under present

closure plans and more are

bound to follow. It now seems
that major reorganization of
the corporation will be set in
train.

Part of this will certainly
include the talks taking place
with GKN. In a joint statement
both sides confirmed yesterday's
report in *The Times*, that they were discussing plans
for joint operations in areas
where their interests overlapped.

The Department of Industry
and the Treasury are supporting
continued joint studies although
government consents would be
necessary if an eventual agree-
ment is reached.

News analysis, page 22

Top stock sells well

The gilt edged market was
stabilized last night that sup-
plies of the Government's latest
short/medium stock, Ex-
chequer 15 per cent 1985, may
be exhausted this morning.

Jobbers were expected to bid
for the rump of the stock at
1980.



Venezuela to cut crude output by 6 pc

Venezuela yesterday became the latest member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries to announce a cut in its production next year. Its output of 2.35 million barrels a day will be cut by 150,000 barrels, a reduction of 6 per cent. Mr Humberto Cadron Bertin, the mines and energy minister said.

The United Arab Emirates has said it intends to cut its production by around 5 per cent. Kuwait is intending to reduce its production. Iran's intentions are unclear, but it is thought to want to cut output.

Saudi Arabia has yet to say whether it is prepared to keep up the extra one million barrels a day it has been providing to alleviate the potential world-wide shortage of supplies.

Brazilian pact for Sir

Concordo Industrial SIR, the main operating company of the Sir Chemicals group, said in Milan that it and its engineering subsidiary Euteco-impianti have signed a five-year scientific and technical cooperation agreement with Brazil's state-owned Petrobras Quimica.

Euteco will initially provide technological know-how for the construction of a 140,000 tonne ethylbenzene plant at Rio Grande do Sul.

Fuel from creosote

Sasol, South Africa's synthetic fuel corporation, will build a plant for the conversion of creosote and phenols into diesel fuel and petrol. Mr Johannes Stegmann, the managing director said. The plant would convert 360,000 tonnes of creosote and phenols into 420 million litres of diesel and petrol per year.

ASEAN talks resume

Negotiations on a trade agreement between the European Economic Community and the Association of South East Asian Nations have restarted in Brussels. The agreement between the two groups is due to be signed by the end of the year. The current negotiations should make "substantial progress" sources close to the Commission said.

China's trade surges

China's foreign trade surged ahead in the first 10 months of this year, but imports outweighed exports by \$1,600m (about £762m). Exports totalled \$10,800m from January to October, compared with imports of \$12,400m. Exports were 41.3 per cent higher than in the same period of 1978, while imports rose 51.8 per cent.

Air fare rises formula

The world's major airlines have called for almost automatic fare increases to compensate for future price rises. A resolution on the fuel-fare formula was adopted at the annual meeting of the International Air Transport Association in Manila.

Bonn tax plan agreed

A proposal by Herr Hans Matthaei, the West German finance minister to amend and simplify the tax system, reducing government revenues by about 445m marks (about £117m) annually, has been approved. The changes apply to various areas of taxation, including corporate and turnover tax. Income tax is not affected.

Dutch jobless rise

Dutch unemployment rose to 208,400 in November from 206,300 in October and 208,400 in November last year. Provisional figures show: Unadjusted figures for an unemployment show a rise to 208,500 from 207,400 in October and 208,700 in November 1978.

W German index up

West Germany's cost of living index rose a provisional 0.4 per cent in November, giving a 5.4 per cent year-on-year rise. The Federal statistics office said in Wiesbaden. The year-on-year rise compares with 5.7 per cent registered in October.

'Terrible years ahead' as BSC makes adjustments, chairman says

Steel corporation faces losses of £300m

The British Steel Corporation faces losses of more than £300,000,000 for the current year. And by the end of its financial year will have lost since 1975 well over £1,000m.

It is now about to embark on a further round of drastic cutbacks in capacity involving the loss of many thousands of jobs, coupled with a drive to lift productivity to international levels.

This was made clear from yesterday's announcement of half-year loss figures of £15.6m and follows continuous discussions with the Government and the unions.

Although reluctant to admit the fact, the Corporation is now faced with the possibility of completely revamping its operations in the light of the collapse in demand—which it knew would happen—but which it expected would be later rather than sooner.

BSI executives were reluctant to spell out how many jobs will have to go but trade union leaders will be left in no doubt that the figure will be high.

The slump in demand comes at a time just when the Corporation is emerging from its huge development plan, and it looks as though around two million tons of existing capacity will have to be mothballed or permanent closed down if the BSC is to remain in business.

Corporation planning in July was based on a progressive financial improvement in the second half of this year, with a new plant coming on stream.

old plant closures and a recession during 1980-81.

But the collapse has come much earlier. Orders for bar, billet and rod (which accounts for a third of all the corporations' business) are down to 45,000 tonnes a week from over 65,000 tonnes earlier in the year; stripmill products—accounting for a further third of the business—are down from 60,000 tonnes a week to 47,000; and demand for plate is down by 10,000 tonnes a week from 18,000 tonnes.

BSI admits that it will not meet the financial break-even target of March next year. Sir Charles Villiers, chairman of the corporation, stressed yesterday that the aim must still be to meet the target at a very early date.

Apart from the pressures

created by the collapse in demand, BSC is still bound by the Government's financial plans. Next year its cash limit has been fixed at £450,000,000 and the Government apparently is not prepared to modify its earlier decision that it will not fund accumulating losses beyond the end of the present financial year.

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, has reaffirmed "prompt remedial action" should be taken in order that the cash limit is adhered to.

The implication, therefore, is clear enough. The BSC board, according to Sir Charles, is united in the need to turn the business round. He said last night: "We have further terrible years ahead as we make these adjustments".

The reorganization of BSC is now well under way. Disposals of part of its chemicals business and its constructional steelworks subsidiary, Redpath-Dorman Long, are in hand.

Talks with GKN on jointly rationalizing billet, bar and rod production are taking place. It is understood that discussions between the two have co-ordinated the phasing-out of 1,000,000 tonnes of rod capacity.

Further reorganization is expected, possibly involving re-shaping of existing divisional structure and perhaps the creation of semi-autonomous product centres. All of which will lead to a much scaled-down headquarters operation.

Peter Hill



Sir Charles Villiers, BSC chairman (centre) at yesterday's news conference.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dividend payments by companies

From Professor G. H. Lamson
Sir, In his timely article (November 27) Hugh Stephenson puts his finger on a matter of the utmost public concern.

His guess that more companies paid out too much in dividends than paid out too little is wholly borne out by the facts. He is also correct in implying that pay-out arithmetic needs to be based on monies that are available on a recurrent basis for distribution as interest, taxes and dividends that is upon a cash flow earnings concept.

As an analysis of officially-published data shows, the average annual dividends of United Kingdom listed manufacturing companies for the 24-year period 1954-77 were 13 times greater than their average post-tax flow earnings before charging interest. The resultant deficits were financed by lenders.

This scale of debt-equity substitution has caused an enormous decline in real equity

values and has not been offset by a commensurate increase in the market value of debt. Reflecting this real decline in total market value, the real return on trading assets has been negative in recent years and not 4.5 per cent as the Bank of England would have us believe.

In indicating the institutions for collectively pressuring companies into the payment of dividends in excess of equity earnings, Mr Stephenson could also have questioned the general financial nous of some of the larger company directors. Not only has Coats Patons over-distributed over the past 18 years, so too have John Brown, Dunlop, EMI and Blue Circle, to name but a few. John Brown and EMI aside, the real decline in the total equity market value of these companies has been terrifying. While Mr Stephenson

is undoubtedly right in having a go at the institutional in-

vestors, one is also entitled to ask whether the financial managers of (say) ICI will do the right thing the next round.

Mr Stephenson's reiteration of the new conventional wisdom on the corporate tax bill needs to be qualified. In the case that the 1974 appreciation reliefs roughly eliminated the effect of inflation on taxable earnings, while it is true that the effective rate of tax on cash flow has fallen, it is still well above the per cent nominal rate. However, stock appreciation discriminates in a most vicious manner against manufacturing companies but favours Tesco-type firms.

Yours faithfully,

GERALD H. LAWSON,
Professor of Business Fin.,
Manchester Business Scho.,
Booth Street West,
Manchester M15 6PB.

From Lord Wilson of High Wray
Sir, On Wednesday November 21 Lord Kings Norton introduced a short debate in the House of Lords under the title "Deterioration in the use of the English language".

It was reported in *The Times* the following day and I received a copy of *Harvard* containing a full transcript on November 23.

It had been my intention to take part in this debate, but I was prevented due to causes beyond my control. This was probably just as well, as there were nineteen speakers, some of whom naturally overran their time. The debate covered a wide range, with Peers referring to their own pet aversions and the expected bricketts being flung at the BBC and the introduction of American words and phrases into our language.

I was surprised, on reading *Harvard*, to find that, whereas usually when I prepare a speech I have to cross off point after point as earlier speakers make them, the main material I had decided to refer to was hardly mentioned and may justify a place in your correspondence columns. This is the necessity for using good, clear English when preparing *sales literature* and *erection and maintenance instructions* for technical products particularly if they are for export and may have to be translated into foreign languages.

I always think while you write and try to put down what you have to say as clearly and accurately as you can. When you are checking through strike out anything that is unnecessary, I try to reach the rudiments of good English and know the product intimately and, just as important, the people to whom it will be addressed.

A top draughtsman may be able to write good English and know the product on the drawing board, but nothing about the difficulties of insuring it in Newfoundland in mid-winter.

Lord Wilson of High Wray, Kendal, Cumbria LA5 4JB.

From Mr Terence McLaughlin
Sir, May I add to John Scott's plea for better communication in industry (November 21)? Let us, for everyone's sake, keep the messages clear and simple.

I remember receiving a good letter from a first class engineer colleague with a wavy signature, a despatch copy of *Parrot*: "Will you please send by air mail a little man about two inches high as without him I cannot see how I am to fit this parent new water seal on the main shaft."

Coming to the more general issue, I would offer the following guidelines:

1. Always think while you write and try to put down what you have to say as clearly and accurately as you can. When you are checking through strike out anything that is unnecessary.

2. Remember who your reader will be. This is the person to and for whom you are writing.

3. Never use words or expressions because to you they look fine. To your reader they may make nonsense.

4. Never use technical words your reader may not understand.

In a conclusion, Sir, may I remind your readers that Jesus Christ did not say: "It is necessary that the sphere of amical

friends should be indefinitely extended." He said: "Love one another."

Yours etc.,
WILSON OF HIGH WRAY,
Gillinggate House,
Kendal, Cumbria LA5 4JB.

Accountants' role

In industry

From Mr F. R. Robinson
Sir, Mr Alan Park (No 19) is not alone, nor the question the role of accountants in industry.

The accountant's job is to see that a company money—but industry goods and accountants ever, understand such as research, development, training and recruitment.

Many of our most inventions of earlier era is before modern methods accountancy came into being never have seen the day had not it been engineers who determined need for and initiated necessary speculation.

These days, unfortunately the speculative financial port required to set a project off the ground so seems to be nullified by speculative advance account by the scientifically illiterate accountants.

Yours faithfully,
F. R. ROBINSON,
24 Garden Avenue,
Farnham, Surrey GU10 1RH.

Japanese fears for textile industry

From Peter Hazlehurst
Tokyo, Nov 29

After flooding the West with cheap and highly competitive goods, the Japanese textile industry is now struggling for survival against a huge onslaught of low-priced imports from South Korea and China.

In the past few of many declining industries in Europe, Japanese business leaders are now asking their governments to curb imports to protect the country's textile industry.

Mr Yoshitaka Sasaki, Japan's minister for trade and industry met with leaders of the textile industry in Tokyo today.

Mr Shunzo Oya, president of Japan's textile federation, claimed that soaring imports of cotton yarn and fabrics from South Korea were beginning to threaten the viability of the textile industry. Mr Oya asked the government to call on South Korea and China to restrain textile exports to Japan in future.

Mr Sasaki is reported to have declared that "appropriate measures will be taken" if cheap and competitive imports continue to threaten Japan's textile industry.

In the meantime the Japanese automobile manufacturers association announced yesterday that exports of vehicles to Europe rose to 77,029 units in October—78 per cent increase over the same month last year. In all Japan exported a total of 410,269 cars and other vehicles in October, a sharp increase of 32.4 per cent over the same period last year.

An association official said the sharp rise could be attributed to several factors. Stocks of Japanese vehicles had declined sharply in recent months because of the popularity of small cars. At the same time, prices are now more competitive in the value of the yen against the dollar.

The Government's policy on shipping generally was not to resist regulation and intervention. Mr Tebbit said: "We prefer to see the free play of market forces between the shipper and ship-owner and are confident that sensible and fair balance can be maintained with minimum government intervention."

A spokesman for Japan's motor industry said: "We would oppose any attempt to erect barriers against Japanese car exports because protective measures run contrary to the concept of free trade."

reason for this is complex but basically it is that sending people off for training reduces labour supply while the training lasts, thus demand must also be reduced. Even if this proposition is valid, it is still difficult to say training is a cure for unemployment; employment is the cure for unemployment.

There are, however, some skills which are in short supply; these are skills which are not much in demand—six months skill course cost about £4,000 each; yet half the trainees six months after leaving their courses are either unemployed or doing jobs which do not use their skills. I am not claiming there is definitely no much on too little training; I am merely pointing out the complexity of the problem.

Yours faithfully,
R. S. MUSGRAVE,
24 Garden Avenue,
Farnham, Surrey GU10 1RH.

Billion dollar blunder
From Señor Francisco R. Parra
Sir, Reference my letter "No 'ulterior motivo' behind Venezuelan oil announcement" (November 29), we erroneously addressed you in American and said "billion" dollars. Understatingly believing we were addressing you in English, you wrote out three more zeros (oops, "noughts"). Correct

capital cost figures should be \$3,500m to \$4,000m for 125,000 barrels per day by 1988, and \$20,000m by the year 2000.

Yours truly,
FRANCISCO R. PARRA,
Managing Director,
Petrobras de Venezuela
(UK) SA,
7 Old Park Lane,
London, W1,
November 29.

Gloomy economic predictions
From Mr P. J. Shaw
Sir, May I first say how pleased I am at the return of the British

To follow this my theme is of purchasing British manufactured products. We are at the nation in the middle of economic recession. May I therefore suggest we start to look after our own and purchase the goods we make as opposed to those imported. Even a small swing in this direction would help reduce unemployment, provide industry with a stable home market to sell abroad, reduce our balance of payment problems and reduce taxation. If we look to the SEC they are not concerned about us, they are happy to take our large contributions but not our lamb, so let us be selfish and there is something that we can do about it.

However, since 1973, when the Opec oil price rises made our problems even worse, it has been politically impossible for governments to take the necessary action. No party will be popular for telling us that we have grave economic difficulties and the electorate will be happy to listen to a rosy forecast from a different political party.

These political constraints, however, no longer exist. The present Government has a duty to let us know how bad the situation is. It is not until we realize just what the consequences of excessive wage demands will be—for example, using Mr Blake's suggestion of publishing predictions based on different wage rise assumptions—that we can hope to persuade

UK alarm at growth in Soviet freight links

By Michael Baily
Shipping Correspondent

Britain has formally expressed concern over continued unilateral interference in the liner trade between the two countries.

Mr Tebbit said large chemical producers were beginning to recognize the possible long-term threat of increasing capacity in Eastern Europe, but added that even companies like Imperial Chemical Industries, which

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Testing the tender offer

ng for a sale by tender in bringing Publishing Group to the market, & Friedlander has aroused new in an introduction technique which is dormant for over a decade. It will be auctioned at a fairly solid price and applicants invited to order to their own evaluation. It is up to the bank to fix the best which a reasonable market can be—presumably at least 500 share-

fully-taxed p/e ratio of almost 4 and yielding 7 per cent after the one-third dividend at 81p, up 3p yesterday, Royal Bank's ratings are no better than those likely to be available on the London clearers.

BP

Third quarter implications

BP's briefing note on yesterday's third quarter figures poses the question: "What is the true picture then?" And the market spent the afternoon wading through the complications posed by the LIFO/FIFO conversion: the basis on which Sohio income had been taken in; a sky-high tax charge and of course the implications for BP's crude oil supplies of the Nigerian losses and Iranian uncertainty.

By the end of the day the shares were a cautious 8p up at 386p, against a price of 363p for the secondary issue earlier this month. That reflects what are satisfactory rather than glamorous third quarter returns, with third quarter net income, after stripping out stock profits of £350m, £212m, against £157m and £140m in the second and first quarters.

The LIFO/FIFO adjustment coupled with deferred tax provisions caused a wide discrepancy between the Sohio contribution to BP and the figures Sohio reported the other day, but nevertheless Sohio, now 53 per cent owned by BP, bumped up its contribution substantially against a background of much better Alaskan production and the ability to sell a higher proportion of it into convenient United States West Coast markets.

BP's other substantial crude source, the North Sea, probably produced about 515,000 bpd in the third quarter, though BP had to operate fairly heavily in the spot markets to maintain supplies, which also contributed to the stock profit.

Moreover, there was another rather more unexpected bright spot: West European demand remained relatively buoyant in markets that reflect supply neurosis rather than price-sensitivity. That may have been an "easy-time" quarter, though, BP with its downstream network enhanced by recent acquisitions was able to capitalise.

For the immediate future the position could not be more uncertain, but BP, no longer a crude-rich company even though more can be expected both from Alaska and the North Sea, will still cope better than many against a background of oil prices rising to perhaps \$6 a barrel to over \$30 next year—and selling at around 3½ times fully-taxed earnings (the third quarter tax charge is simply a best guess at this stage). It looks attractive against a sector, which should be held rather than bought at this stage.

600 Group

After the strike

The engineering strike has had the expected painful effect on 600 Group cutting half-year profits by a third to £3.6m. However, hopes that the worst is now behind it lifted the share price 4p to 57p yesterday.

Assisted by the ending last month of the ban on exporting scrap metal, overseas demand has helped to offset sluggishness of demand at home. The machine tools side is still doing well, though there is a three-month time cycle and orders will be more difficult to win from now on.

Elsewhere steel castings had a difficult first half and the foundries subsidiary has now been closed, though the sale of the assets is likely to meet the costs of the shut down, so there should be no extraordinary costs at the year end.

Some action has also been taken on borrowings which have been reduced from the year end level of £12m net, and interest charges have already started to reflect this.

Assuming some second-half recovery the group could make £10m for the year which points to a p/e ratio of around 5 and a yield of just under 14 per cent. This taken into account the rough ride engineers can expect next year but discounts will be possible.

Ear base rates look like at least those of 1978-79 but staff costs are rising fast and the Scottish office's outlook is not promising. On a

Business Diary: Hildreth's new job



Jan Hildreth: back in business.

financial advisory services and with investment in small and medium-sized companies.

• Is the Consumer Legislation Monitoring Group, set up among business interests such as Marks and Spencer, Unilever and the Confederation of British Industry to reveal the additional costs of complying with new consumer laws, itself a waste of time and money? The consumers' lobby suggests it is.

The monitoring group commissioned a report from the Economist Intelligence Unit but Jeremy Mitchell, the director of the National Consumer Council, promptly spiked its guns by leaking the report's findings.

He ridicules the statistical methods by which the findings had been reached and challenges the £40m tag which the group claims it costs the eight business sectors—from food to leisure—to service the new laws. He says the figure "is nearer £20m."

Now the NCC have aligned

upon another survey carried out by the National Federation of the Self-Employed and Small Businesses. Asked what recent legislation had damaged their business, 35.9 per cent of respondents pointed the finger at the Employment Protection Act and 29.1 per cent at the introduction of VAT. Only 3.5 per cent mentioned consumer protection legislation.

The abolished Consumer Legislation Monitoring Group is left with its EIU report estimated to have cost something in five figures, and differences of opinion as to whether to publish it.

• A date for the diaries of the ghoulish. Next Wednesday at Qunzimo's the London restauranteur, Spink the coin people, are auctioning what are described as "internment camp items" from the Isle of Man.

For those with short memories there was a pair of internment camp cans on the Island during the First World War, whereas were placed German civilians unlucky enough to be resident in the United Kingdom at the outbreak of hostilities.

Whoever struck the little when metal models on auction was not exactly what you would call "prescient". One bears the inscription "Wellington 1914-15". (World War 1914-15). Funny, I thought it went on a bit longer than that?

The anonymous author of a new Building Societies Association booklet, Building Societies and House Purchase, was caught on the hop like anybody else by the leap in lending rate to 15 per cent. The top rate quoted in all his tables, is 13.75 per cent.

• First coals to Newcastle. Then sand to the desert. Now, Webb & Wizard, the Institute of Directors, some acrimony last was yesterday a non-executive of Minster Trust, the bank subsidiary of Aspers.

John J. Lee of Cambridge, the institute's director-general, left battle with the then Denys Randolph of March. The row had after consultation by Randolph that Hildreth should confine himself to the institute's public or cease being an "star".

result, Hildreth found himself less than 30 and PR staff while the 100 or so reported to Randolph. was a lot of sympathy among the 1,000 odd members of his admiration for his finding of the move Beirave Square to 1 and for the retrieval finances from loss to The effect of this eventually resulted in Hildreth's departure shortly.

In the past year Hildreth is doing a variety of not least attempting to a charity to provide educational facilities for handicapped children who is now 20 is a

had an effective sabbatical he has now to go back into At Minster Trust has been working as fast since last December will be particularly able for expanding the

building societies association booklet, Building Societies and House Purchase, was caught on the hop like anybody else by the leap in lending rate to 15 per cent. The top rate quoted in all his tables, is 13.75 per cent.

After exchange controls: how do you gauge the money supply?

John Whitmore

Were I a Treasury minister, the very first thing I would want to do at the moment would be to lace myself into the straight-jacket of a medium-term financial plan.

On the other hand, if ministers are convinced that the one point of policy on which they will be asked to come in to reduce the rate of monetary growth, so be it; let them publish their plan, but on two conditions.

They are: First, that they should be sure that the monetary indicators they choose are appropriate. Secondly, they should be certain that they have, or at least are going to have, the tools necessary to enable them to carry them to fulfilment.

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NCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

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Financial Staff
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PERSONAL CHOICE



... who appears in the Muppet Show (ITV, 700)

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Daville

TELEVISION

BBC 1

9.05 am For Schools: Colleges: 9.05 Encounters: France, 9.52 Look and Read (Skyhunter, 10), 10.15 Talking Books, 10.30 The Big Picture (in progress), 11.05 Hymn o' Fyld 11.40 Exploring Science (12), 12.05 pm Ticker Ltd. All repeats. Close down at 12.30.

12.45 News and weather. 1.00 Pebble Mill at One, including Peter Brook's gardening spot, *Dis This*. 1.45 Camberwick Green: children's puppet story. 2.00 Five Schools, Colleges: 2.02 Scene: 2.25 A Good Job with Prospects. Both repeats. Close down at 3.00. 3.20 Pebble Mill: the story in Welsh. 3.35 Play School: the story in The English School: Colleges: 3.45 10.00 Mermaid: Czechoslovakian cartoon series. 4.25 Jackanory: Peter Brougham finishes reading Abel's Island, by 4.40 Hong Kong Phooey: cartoon. 4.55 Crackerjack: a mixed bag of entertainment for children.

BBC 2

11.00 am Play School: same as BBC 1. 2.30 Closedown at 11.25. 5.40 Laurel and Hardy: *Be Big!* Not one of the best of their shorts. A sketch, really, for their later full-length film *Fraternity*. 6.05 *Jackanory*: a mixed bag of adventure set in old China; mainly for children. Tonight, the good, bad, mousey.

6.50 Animation at Cambridge: tribute to veteran animators Lotte Reiniger, now 80. 7.45 *Scars of War*: second of five programmes which tell you how to improve your game. Tonight: rear-court moves. 7.50 News with sub-titles for the hard of hearing. 8.00 *The Country*: Angela Rippon goes to the Hampshire village of Selborne to see how much it has changed since Gilbert White wrote his two centuries ago. 8.10 *The Times*: *Reconstruction*: some of Britain's most famous old steam locomotives, including Stephenson's Rocket (see Personal Choice).

THAMES

9.30 am For Schools: 9.30 English (part 2 of the play *The Playhouse*), 10.15 *Stop, Look, Listen*, 10.15 *Wanted: You're a Winner*, 10.25 *The Womans' Butterfly*, 10.45 *Music Round*, 11.10 *Reading with Lenny*, 11.22 *Leapfrog*, 11.38 *Flashback* (old-time sailing). 12.00 *The Learning Tree*: Tony Braden tells the children's stories. 12.15 *Am Rainbow*: children learn what bravery means. 12.30 *The Sullivans*: Australian family serial. 1.00 *Simply Sewing*: dressmaking tips from Leila Aitken. 2.00 *After Noon*: first of a series of reports on the building up of a new face for a woman who, as

a girl, fell into the fire and suffered appalling burns. 2.45 *Flight Nurses*: Wheels (1962). 3.45 *Stop, Look, Listen*, 4.15 *Wanted: You're a Winner*, 4.30 *Womans' Butterfly*, 4.45 *Music Round*, 5.10 *Reading with Lenny*, 5.22 *Leapfrog*, 5.38 *Flashback* (old-time sailing). 6.00 *The Learning Tree*: Tony Braden tells the children's stories. 6.15 *Am Rainbow*: children learn what bravery means. 6.30 *Thames News*. 6.35 *Thames Sport*: Ronald Allison sums up the weekend's prospects.

LONDON WEEKEND

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